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IN DAY 1 OF OUR THREE PART SERIES, METRO EXPLORES THE NEW FRONTIER OF FRACKING — BRITISH COLUMBIA PAGE 14-15

Where is Rob Ford?

Lawyer of Toronto mayor insists his client is in rehab, despite reports Ford turned around at the U.S. border PAGE 8

Seth Rogen's inner manchild grows up

The 32-year-old takes up a lot of responsibility in the comedy Neighbors PAGE 20 & 21

SECOND VICTIM IDENTIFIED

A floral memorial leans against a fence outside the home where Sanjula Devi, inset, was fatally stabbed Sunday. The 36-year-old was identified Tuesday as the second person to die in the attack, along with Fahmida Velji-Visram, 29, whom police believe was her friend. Officers arrested a man they believe was Devi's estranged husband and say murder charges are pending. For the story, see page 4.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO, INSET/FACEBOOK

Calgary rubbing out questionable massage parlours

Massaging the rules. Few 'body rub practitioners' registered with city

New numbers indicate that putting stress on shady parlours has forced many out of business and alleviated a sore spot for the legitimate massage industry, says Calgary's chief licence inspector.

At the outset of 2013, all masseuses and massage businesses were required to meet the standards of a licensed massage centre or practitioner or declare themselves as being in the "body rub" business.

The intent of the newly-imposed bylaw was to weed out those massage businesses that were potentially offering sexual services behind closed doors. All licensed massage practitioners must be members of one of four recognized associations.

Body-rub workers, meanwhile, are required to have 250 hours of training in school, are required to undergo an annual police background check and may not open up shop within 300 metres of another establishment of the same type.

Figures released by the City of Calgary indicate the total number of licensed massage centres has nearly doubled since the beginning of last year — from 218 to 428 — while only 10 businesses have newly declared themselves "body rub centres." An additional 86 people have declared themselves body-rub practitioners — all workers had until the end of the year to identify themselves in one manner or another.

"The illegal stuff was hiding behind massage," said Kent Pallister, Calgary's chief licence inspector. "Now, we're not allowing that so easy ... the vast majority of massage is totally legitimate. I think the numbers show the bylaw is stopping the clustering of body-rub businesses."

But some fear the city's new body-rub regime doesn't go far enough.

Justine Craigen offers services to pregnant mothers but fielded a call a few days ago from a "gentleman" who'd misread her ad and was seemingly seeking sexual favours. "He saw that we offered specialty massage," she said. "When I followed up to ask if he was pregnant, he took real offence to that. It's frustrating having to deal with people like that because massage therapy is a legitimate business. We're not doing anything iffy or under the table."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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Rick McIver

Local MLA quits post, expected to run for PC leader

Former Alberta Infrastructure Minister Ric McIver. METRO FILE

Alberta's infrastructure minister resigned his gig Tuesday amid speculation he'll enter the Progressive Conservative leadership race.

Ric McIver has scheduled a press conference for Wednesday where it's widely expected he will announce his intentions.

A campaign-style news release announced that McIver will "discuss his common-sense new thinking for our province's future."

McIver was elected to his first term as MLA for Calgary-Hays in April 2012 after spending three terms on city council.

Mount Royal University political analyst David Taras called McIver a caucus star and a "workhorse for the government" but questioned whether he's got the chutzpah to be the frontman for the 43-year-old Tory dynasty as it battles the surging Wildrose Party.

"I see Ric as someone you send into the corner to get the puck," said Taras, who was reached while watching the NHL playoffs. "But whether he's the guy who scores the goal ... is something else." BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

Traffic on Deerfoot Trail would become less congested with the introduction of "high-occupancy toll" lanes, according to the author of a new Manning Foundation report. METRO FILE

Toll lanes inevitable, says transport chief

'User pay' model.
Foundation pitches toll lanes for Deerfoot, Glenmore, Crowchild

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

Drivers should be able to pay to use premium lanes on major thoroughfares, according to a new Manning Foundation report.

Meanwhile, the man in charge of Calgary transportation believes such tolls are an inevitability.

"If you look at what's going on in other parts of the world, I'm pretty convinced it will happen in Calgary," transportation general manager Mac Logan said Tuesday. "The question is when."

His comments came as the right-leaning Manning Foundation, which has long supported user-pay models for a variety of city services, published a new report calling for "high-occupancy toll" (HOT) lanes for Deerfoot, Glenmore, and Crowchild trails.

"Calgary already has high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes — let's take it one step further and call them HOT lanes," report author Ben Brunnen said. "Single-user vehicles can enter those lanes if they choose to pay."

Such a model has already been introduced successfully in other parts of North America, he added.

Brunnen said HOT lanes in Calgary would ease congestion by encouraging people to carpool, take transit or take alternate routes and by re-investing all of the money raised through tolls back into transportation infrastructure.

Payment and enforcement can be done completely electronically, he added, as modern toll roads don't require the stop-and-go gates of the past.

Logan said toll roads have proven practical in other jurisdictions and also have a certain appeal from the perspective of a "user-pay" principle for expensive roadways.

"Why should you pay the same (as someone) who doesn't even drive?" he said.

Spending

Calgary's transportation spending has grown to 25 per cent of the city's budget in 2012, up from 20 per cent in 2004. The Manning Foundation calls it unsustainable.

- The Manning Foundation is calling for a per-kilometre toll for single-occupant vehicles using HOT lanes that Brunnen said would amount to about $5 a day for an average, round-trip commute.

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Kijiji pet safety initiative found little following in city

Horrific crimes. Recent dog and cat killing put spotlight back on dangers of selling animals online

JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

This pup, formerly known as S'mores (now Rufus), was the centre of a three-year investigation into an online puppy-selling scheme involving Kijiji. METRO FILE

Just a handful of pet breeders signed on for a now-scrapped Calgary program launched two years ago that aimed to improve safety for selling furry friends online.

In April 2012, the Calgary Humane Society teamed with Kijiji to offer a certification program for those purchasing and selling animals through the popular online classifieds site.

Prospective customers and pet breeders could contact Kijiji and then have a Humane Society employee dispatched to survey the living conditions and overall health of a pet up for sale.

But society spokesperson Christy Thompson said Tuesday just eight breeders participated over a period of six months and her organization cancelled the program outright about a year ago.

"It just sort of floated off," she said.

Safety with selling pets online has been thrust back into the spotlight in recent days following two more grisly criminal cases involving Kijiji.

On Monday, investigators announced they've charged 19-year-old Nicolino Ivano Camardi with two counts of willfully causing unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal.

It's alleged Camardi starved both a dog and cat and also beat the latter animal before dumping the bodies of both in a Willow Park-area alley.

As well, in late April, Ashley Onen was fined $7,000 and banned from purchasing pets for a decade.

Onen was convicted of crimes related to the sale of numerous malnourished and injured animals on Kijiji.

'Adoptable' animals

6,932

The Calgary Humane Society has found new homes for 6,932 pets over the past two years and has not euthanized any that were considered "adoptable."

Domestic violence

Community needs to break the silence

As new details emerge about the recent stabbing murders in Calgary, a local group says that a community effort is needed to help stop the growing severity of domestic abuse.

On Tuesday, Calgary Police identified one of the victims as Sanjula Devi, 36, of Calgary. Devi was found dead in a home on the 6400 block of Penbrooke Drive SE Sunday evening. Investigators with the Calgary Police stated that they believe the accused was the estranged husband of one of the victims, who was retrieving items from the home after a separation. Police have ID'd the other victim as Fahmida Velji-Visram, 29, of Calgary.

Members of the Calgary Domestic Violence Collective are speaking up about the importance of community involvement in this issue.

Brigitte Baradoy, the Executive Director at Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society and a member of the CDVC, said the community needs to speak up.

"We hope it underscores the need for breaking the silence about domestic abuse early on," she said.

Two accounts of second degree murder and one account of aggravated assault are pending on the accused. The suspect was taken to hospital for self-inflicted injuries and remains in stable condition. METRO

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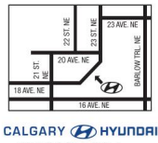

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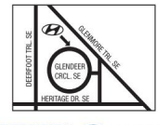

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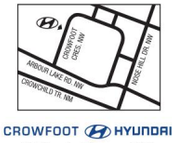

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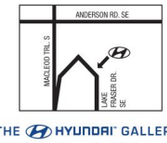

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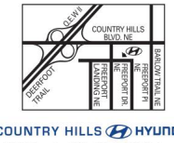

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Charges. Alleged credit card lab busted

Following a four-month investigation that led them to a secret room in a southeast home, Calgary cops put the squeeze on a duo allegedly behind the crafting of counterfeit credit cards.

The Calgary police economic crimes unit executed a search warrant on April 25 at a residence in the 400 block of Mahogany Terrace S.E. Police discovered a hidden room with equipment they believe was used in a credit-card- and identification-manufacturing lab. Credit-card-skimming equipment as well as hundreds of counterfeit cards were found.

Dennis Ranuk, 31, of Calgary is charged with possessing instruments for forging or falsifying documents, possession of MDMA and proceeds of crime.

Roman Garbar, 30, of Calgary is charged with possessing instruments for forging or falsifying documents.

Ranuk will appear in court Wednesday, while Garbar will appear in court May 20.

The economic crimes unit is continuing their investigation and multiple other charges are still pending. METRO

Police released this photo collage Tuesday of equipment seized from a suspected counterfeit credit card operation. COURTESY CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

Free family fun

Golf, Mother's Day — who wouldn't?

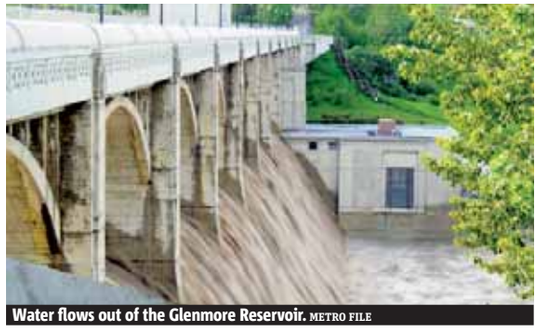
The City of Calgary is offering free golf for the whole family at Richmond Green Golf Course this Sunday.

The free golf is a celebration of both Mother's Day and the reopening of the course.

Located in the southwest, Richmond Green Golf Course is a nine-hole par-3 course well suited for beginner players or expert players looking to improve their game. METRO

Recreation could be affected as Glenmore Reservoir levels adjusted

Flood prep info.
City hosting open house Wednesday, 4:30-7:30 p.m., at Ramsay Community Association hall



Water flows out of the Glenmore Reservoir. METRO FILE

Calgarians' recreational activities on the Glenmore Reservoir could be affected as the city begins seasonal water-level adjustments, officials said Tuesday.

"We start now to bring the Glenmore Reservoir down," river flood mitigation program manager Rick Valdarchi told reporters. "This is normal operating practice; we do this every year."

The target level for the artificial body of water is 1.7 metres below crest, he added, which strikes a balance between mitigating the risk of flood and maintaining the city's water supply in case of a dry summer.

"The primary responsibility of that reservoir is water supply; the second responsibility of that reservoir is to manage runoff and, to some extent, some heavy runoff that we might see," Valdarchi said.

In the event of particularly heavy rain in the forecast, Valdarchi said the level could be lowered further.

"If we see something developing, even if it's four days ahead, we'll start to draw down, just from a precautionary perspective," he said, adding that the reservoir level needs to be lowered slowly to avoid damaging riverbanks — or causing flooding — downstream.

The people most immediately affected by these measures, Valdarchi noted, are recreational users of the Glenmore Reservoir.

"Those are the ones that, during this period of time, feel the greatest impact because sometimes we get the level of the reservoir such that we have to eliminate recreational use," he said. KEN VAN DE WALLE/FOR METRO

Be prepared

One of the best ways to prepare for a flood — or any disaster — is to have a 72-hour emergency preparedness kit at the ready, Calgary Emergency Management Agency deputy chief Tom Sampson said.

- Most homes already have the necessary materials, Sampson said, advising: "Simply package it up, put it at the door and drag it with you when you go."
- Visit Calgary.ca/FloodPrep for more information.

Pension reform needs more discussion: Horner

The province's decision to shelve two pension reform bills should not be seen as defeat but as recognition of the public's concern, Finance Minister Doug Horner said Tuesday.

"It's not a matter of whether we backed down, or who won or who lost," Horner said at a legislature news conference with Guy Smith, head of the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees.

"This is about making sure the process is right."

Horner made the comments a day after the government sent Bill 9 and Bill 10 to an all-party standing committee for public hearings this summer.

The bills, with any amendments, could come back as early as the fall sitting.

Horner said the decision was made after the province heard increasing concerns from stakeholders, including unions, about the proposed legislation.

"It became pretty evident that there's a lot of misinformation that's out there. There's a lot of discussion that has to happen. And … there's some trust that has to be rebuilt."

Not keeping score

"It's not a matter of whether we backed down, or who won or who lost."
Finance Minister Doug Horner

Smith said the pension bills, the labour contract and another law imposing severe fines for talking about illegal strikes have severely strained labour relations with the province.

But, he added, things are turning around.

"I'm open to having discussions about rebuilding that relationship on an honest, respectful level," said Smith.

"We'll see. The trust level is still extremely low."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Karen Lloyd, seen with two of her eight kids, Pearl and Douglas, will pay roughly $2,200 for two of her kids to ride the bus to school and three to eat lunch at school next fall. METRO FILE

Despite protests from trustees, CBE fee hike seems imminent

'Rise up.' More criticism levelled at provincial government

JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Fee hikes for public-school busing and noon-hour supervision appear imminent, but one elected representative is encouraging parents to "rise up against the Government of Alberta."

Calgary Board of Education trustees debated for hours proposed increases to fees that would see the annual cost for a student riding a yellow school bus to school and eating their lunch on-site five days a week rise from $515 to $610.

But a collection of common allies on the CBE board reiterated criticism of the provincial government.

"You need to not rise up against the board of trustees but rise up against the Government of Alberta and start contacting MLAs … you need to help us out," said Wards 5 and 10 representative Pamela King.

Trustee Trina Hurdman brought forward a motion to remove the "bad debt" portion of the calculation that determines school busing fees — that is, that parents who do pay their school fees cover the costs for those who either can't afford or refuse to do so.

Hurdman's motion received backing from chair Sheila Taylor and fellow representative Amber Stewart, but was voted down by members King, Lynn Ferguson, Judy Hehr and Joy Bowen-Eyre.

Taylor, in particular, took issue with King's call to action.

"We need to draw the line here before we nickelling and diming parents to death," she said. "When I hear trustees talk about how we need to make parents rise up, we need to make parents rise up … that's not why you raise fees. You raise fees because costs are going up. Talking like that is playing politics with parents and these are people's lives, these are pocketbooks."

Karen Lloyd, head of the Calgary Association of Parents and School, said she expects to pay about $2,200 in September for two of her kids to ride the bus and three to eat lunch onsite.

"We're budgeting (for) it already … it's not easy," she said.

CBE considering routine police checks for employees

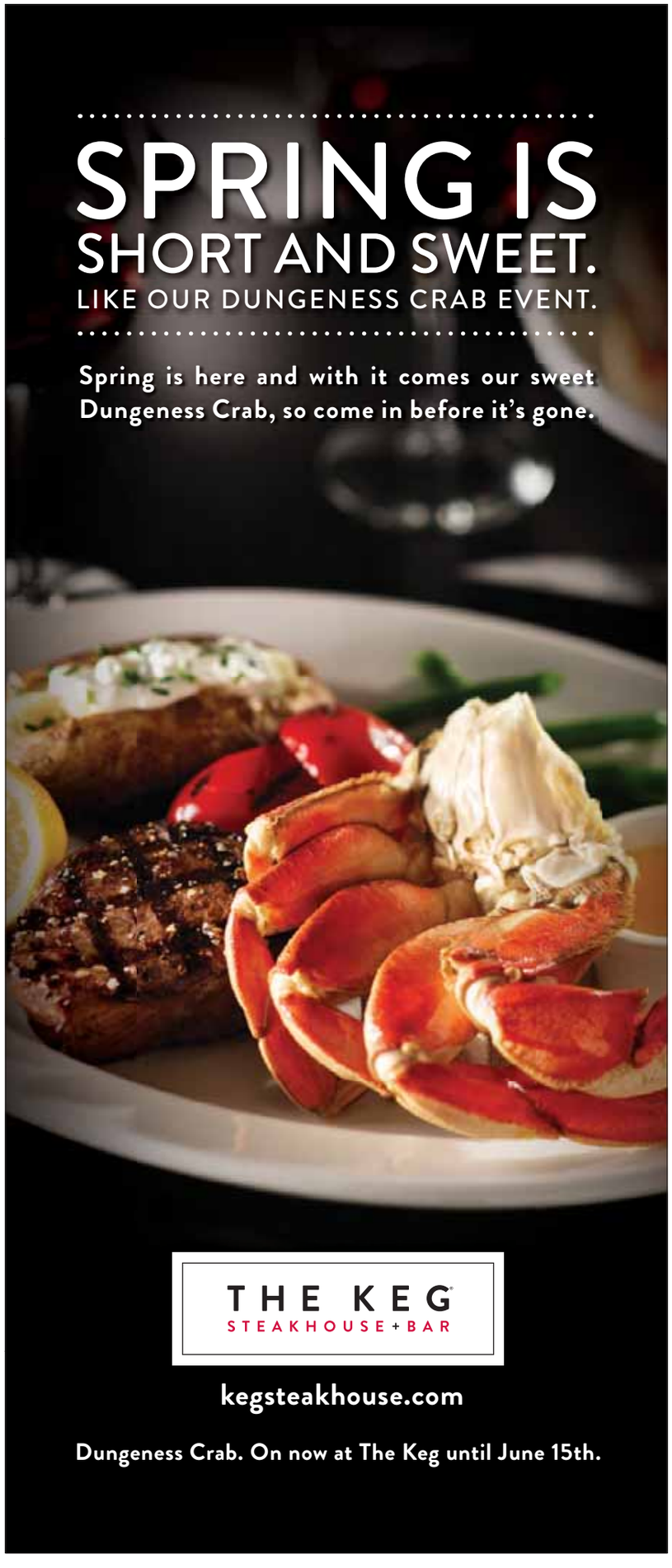
Trustee Amber Stewart
JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Calgary Board of Education trustees took the "first step" towards routine police background checks for all employees during a meeting Tuesday evening.

A report from the organization's top executive, David Stevenson, indicated more than 2,800 CBE employees have never undergone such a screening as it wasn't mandatory prior to 1999.

Just getting an initial check out of the way for those members will run the cash-strapped school board $151,000.

But trustee Amber Stewart requested an impact statement for performing those initial screenings and then moving to a system that would see each employee screened once every five years. Currently, CBE staff are checked once at the time of hire. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO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Ford didn't enter U.S. last week, reports say

Whereabouts remain a mystery. Toronto mayor's lawyer asks media to take a step back and 'let the man do his rehab'

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, seen leaving his home last Thursday, did not officially enter the U.S. when he flew to Chicago last week, reports said Tuesday, but his lawyer insisted Ford is getting treatment. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rob Ford did not officially enter the U.S. when he flew to Chicago last week bound for rehab, reports said Tuesday, but his lawyer insisted "100 per cent" that the Toronto mayor is getting in-patient substance-abuse treatment.

Ford's whereabouts remain a mystery, and lawyer Dennis Morris said they should stay that way.

"The media should, I don't know, put things on pause a little bit," Morris said in an interview. "Let the man do his rehab. Once he gets out we can just see how it worked."

Ford left home last week after announcing he was taking a leave of absence and suspending his re-election campaign to seek "immediate" help for alcohol abuse.

Moris said that the mayor flew to Chicago, but was not in a program in that city. He refused to say where Ford ended up, but said he is in a treatment facility.

"I can't comment other than saying 100 per cent," Morris said, adding that the mayor is "doing very well."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Auditor general's report: In brief

Auditor general Michael Ferguson delivered his spring report to Parliament on Tuesday. Here are the four things you need to know.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Overcrowding still a problem in prisons

The prison system has met its immediate need for cells, but has not figured out how to deal with the long-term problem of crowding, especially since federal law-and-order legislation promises to keep more people behind bars for longer periods. The audit says there is already overcrowding in some regions as prisoners are bunked two to a cell — and the problem could get worse.

Policing in First Nations isn't measuring up

The First Nations policing system is not working as intended and some of its services fail to meet provincial policing legislation and standards. The audit found that First Nations don't have enough say in negotiating policing agreements. The Public Safety Department doesn't know whether First Nations police facilities, such as jails, police stations and accommodations, meet fire and building codes or provincial standards.

StatsCan job data not giving a clear enough picture

The country's top survey on job vacancies is too vague and doesn't provide much value to governments and other users. Statistics Canada needs to better address the needs of those outside the federal government who use its data, especially when it comes to job-vacancy data. The auditors say the agency must find better ways to deliver data on small areas and smaller populations.

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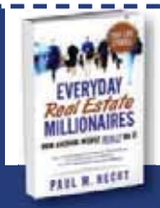

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LGBT rights

Ugandan gay activist seeks asylum

Fearing prison or even death, an openly gay activist from Uganda is seeking asylum in the United States since his home country toughened criminal punishment against gays.

John Abadallah Wambere came to the U.S. for a speaking tour in February, and Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni three days later passed the new measure that strengthened penalties against gay sex, including life in prison.

Wambere, who now lives in Cambridge, said Tuesday, one day before his visa expires, that it was a heartbreaking decision to leave behind the gay community he has supported for over a decade and to leave his 16-year-old daughter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lawyer detained

China deterring remembrance of Tiananmen?

Chinese authorities detained a well-known rights lawyer and several other people Tuesday in an apparent bid to deter activists from marking the upcoming 25th anniversary of a brutal military suppression of pro-democracy protesters.

Beijing police placed Pu Zhiqiang under criminal detention early in the morning, according to Qu Zhenhong, an associate at Pu's firm who has been in contact with his family. Pu enjoys mainstream prominence that is unusual for most dissidents, and news of his detention was circulating widely on Chinese microblogs.

Pu has not been formally indicted. Beijing police had no comment.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Russian political activists Nadya Tolokonnikova, right, and Maria Alyokhina of the band Pussy Riot joined U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin in seeking action to stop violations of human rights by pro-Russian militants in the Ukraine region, at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pussy Riot take their message to Capitol Hill

Human rights abuses. Pair asks Congress to add 16 officials to list of Russians facing sanctions

Two members of the Russian dissident punk group Pussy Riot came to the Capitol Tuesday and asked members of Congress to add 16 officials to the list of Russian human rights violators who face U.S. sanctions.

Before a throng of cameras and reporters, the women — Nadezhda Tolokonnikova and Maria Alyokhina — said Russian President Vladimir Putin's crackdown on human rights was damaging that country.

"Putin is not leading Russia to stability, but to complete instability and chaos," Tolokonnikova said through a translator.

The pair was arrested in 2012 after an obscenity-laced performance criticizing Putin at Moscow's main cathedral. They spent nearly two years in prison, but since their release have continued decrying the lack of freedom in Russia and harsh government tactics against opponents.

The women said Russia has resumed abusing prisoners, including using mandatory psychiatric treatment for some. They said they hoped public pressure would force the mistreatment to stop.

"Silence is the most dangerous thing for a political prisoner," said Tolokonnikova.

By law, the United States can freeze assets and ban travel to the U.S. of Russians deemed to be human rights abusers. Currently, 18 Russians are on a public list of people facing such sanctions while an unknown number of others are on a confidential list.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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With little military help, residents form search parties to look for captured girls

Protesters march in front of the Nigerian embassy in Washington on Tuesday to protest the kidnapping of nearly 300 teenage schoolgirls, abducted from a school in the remote northeast of Nigeria. MANUEL BALCE CENETA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chibok girls school. A student who escaped her captors recounts the harrowing experience

The girls in the school dorm heard the sound of gunshots from a nearby town. So when armed men in uniforms burst in and promised to rescue them, at first they were relieved.

"Don't worry, we're soldiers," one 16-year-old girl recalls them saying. "Nothing is going to happen to you."

The gunmen commanded the hundreds of students at the Chibok Government Girls Secondary School to gather outside. The men were not government soldiers at all. They were members of the ruthless Islamic extremist group called Boko Haram. They kidnapped the entire group of girls and drove them away into the forest.

There were too many gunmen to count, said the girl who escaped. So, even after the students realized the men were Islamic extremists, they sat obediently in the dirt. The men set the school ablaze and herded the girl's group onto the backs of three pickup trucks.

The trucks drove through three villages, but then the car of fighters following them broke down. That's when the girl and her friend jumped out.

As they jumped, the car behind started up. The girls did not know if the fighters could see them, so they ran and hid. Later on, a man on a bicycle found them and accompanied them home. There, they were met with tears of joy.

Three weeks later, 276 girls are still missing. At least two have died of snakebite, and about 20 others are ill, according to an intermediary who is in touch with their captors.

With little confidence in the military, residents of Chibok bought fuel for motorcycles and headed into the dangerous Sambisa Forest themselves.

An old man herding cattle warned them that they were close, but that they and their daughters could be killed if they confronted the militants.

The searchers returned to Chibok and appealed to the few soldiers there to accompany them into the forest. Parents ask why they came within a couple of miles of their daughters, yet the military did not.

"What was strange was that none of the people we spoke to had seen a soldier man in the area, yet the military were saying they were in hot pursuit," said Mutah Buba, who joined the search to look for his sisters and nieces.

However, the military says it is diligently searching, with extensive aerial surveillance.

The 16-year-old who escaped keeps thinking of her friends, and wondering why she was able to get away while they are still captive. "I am really lucky and I can thank God for that," she said. "But God must help all of them." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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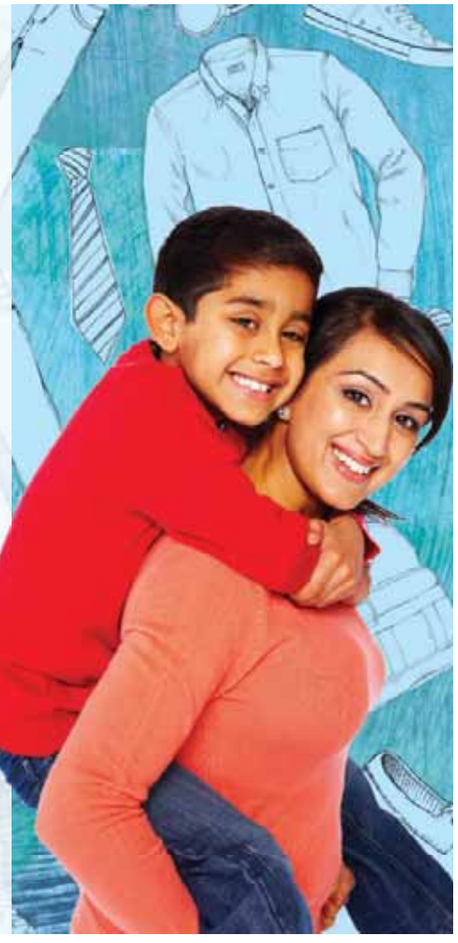

Monica Lewinsky, seen in this July 2001 file photo, writes about her life in this month's Vanity Fair magazine. In released excerpts, she says she's perhaps the first Internet scapegoat and wants to speak out on behalf of other victims of online humiliation. DARLA KHAZEI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

'It's time to burn the beret and bury the blue dress'

Monica Lewinsky.
Former White House intern opens up on affair with Bill Clinton

Former White House intern Monica Lewinsky says there's no question her boss — Bill Clinton — "took advantage" of her when he was president.

But she says their affair was consensual and if there was any abuse involved, it came afterward, when Clinton's inner circle tried to discredit her and the president's opponents used her as a political pawn.

The former White House intern, now 40, writes about her life in the next issue of Vanity Fair magazine, out this month. In released excerpts, she says she's perhaps the first Internet era scapegoat and wants to speak out on behalf of other victims of online humiliation.

Lewinsky was 22 when her liaisons with Clinton began in 1995. Clinton's lies about the relationship contributed to his impeachment by the House in 1998; the Senate acquitted him.

Lewinsky writes that she deeply regrets the affair and made a point of staying silent through several presidential campaigns to avoid becoming a distraction. Now, she writes, it's time to stop "tiptoeing around my past — and other people's futures. I am determined to have a different ending to my story. I've decided, finally, to stick my head above the parapet."

Invoking her headwear from endlessly repeated TV clips and the stained garment considered as evidence against Clinton, she writes: "It's time to burn the beret and bury the blue dress."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Breaking her silence

These aren't Monica Lewinsky's first public words on the scandal.

- Lewinsky broke her silence in 1999 with a blockbuster interview with Barbara Walters, gave several subsequent interviews and co-operated with author Andrew Morton on his book the same year, entitled Monica's Story.

University of Utah

School's president backs changes to 'sexist' fight song

It's time for the University of Utah to consider tweaking parts of the school fight song Utah Man that some find sexist, the school's president said Monday.

Proposals to adjust such lyrics as "I'm a Utah man" and "our coeds are the fairest" have spiked emotions on campus.

"Utah man" could become "Utah fan," some have said, but no specific changes have officially been proposed.

The song dates back to 1904 and once contained the lyric "We drink our stein of lager and we smoke our big cigars." Officials replaced that part with the line referring to coeds.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Acrobats' stunt gone wrong

Probe over, circus takes down big top, heads out of town

Investigators have completed an initial investigation into the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus accident that sent eight acrobats plummeting to the floor during a hair-hanging stunt Sunday and are turning over a broken clip and other material to federal safety investigators.

Providence fire investigator Paul Doughty said they have narrowed down the cause of the broken clip to two possibilities: a manufacturing defect or improper use.

The circus has packed up and is headed for Connecticut without eight of its acrobats, who remained hospitalized in Providence.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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See that symbol? Use your Metro News app to scan the photo for a tour of Glenda Wagar and Pat Gerlinsky's ranch in Northern B.C., the scene of a potentially fatal sour gas leak in 2009.

On the edge of the Rocky Mountains in one of Canada's most remote corners, plains are marked by deep gorges B.C.'s Peace River country, which finds itself on the verge of a liquefied natural gas boom, a projected trillion-dollar requires fracking, a practice banned in three Canadian provinces. Over three days, Metro will look in depth

THE NEW FRONTIER

Glenda Wagar and her boyfriend Pat Gerlinsky visit with two-year-old colts and fillies on their farmland in northeastern B.C. on April 29. EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

High-pressure tactic

What the frick is fracking?

Fracking is shorthand for hydraulic fracturing, a method of extracting natural gas from unconventional sources, like shale rock formations, that were previously inaccessible through drilling methods.

The process involves drilling into the earth and injecting millions of litres of fluid — a mix of water, sand and chemicals — at a high pressure into shale rock to fracture the rock and release the gas trapped inside.

The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers explains how it works:

• A hole, called a wellbore, is drilled vertically into the ground. Once it reaches the depth of the shale rock, up to three kilometres below the surface, the drill turns horizontally into the rock.

• Steel tubes (casing) are inserted into the wellbore and secured by cement. The casing is meant to prevent the fracking fluid from leaking and contaminating drinking water aquifers.

• Fluid is injected into the hole at a high pressure to crack the shale rock and release the natural gas into the well. The cracks extend 50 to 100 metres into the rock.

Much of the controversy lies in the potential health risks from sour gas leaks to air pollution and contamination of drinking water. A study from the Council of Canadian Academies, an independent organization of scientists and other experts, concluded there isn't enough known about the impacts of fracking to declare it safe.

There are no documented cases of groundwater contamination from the fluid used in fracking in B.C. But a 2011 investigation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency found fracking contaminated two wells with high concentrations of benzene, a known carcinogen, in Wyoming.

Another potential risk is sour gas, which can be found in 30 per cent of the natural gas and crude oil reserves in Western Canada, according to the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers.

When fracking occurs in sour gas zones, the risk of gas leaks can be fatal. Sour gas contains hydrogen sulphide, which is highly toxic and can kill in seconds in high concentrations. THANDI FLETCHER/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Health risk study

- A 2010 Endocrine Disruption Exchange study determined that more than 75 per cent of chemicals used in fracking can affect the skin, eyes, and the respiratory and digestive systems.
- The non-profit group dedicated to researching health and environmental problems caused by exposure to chemicals found about 40 to 50 per cent of the chemicals could affect the nervous system, immune system, cardiovascular system and the kidneys.
- Twenty-five per cent of the chemicals are known to cause cancer.

A truck pulls out of an active wellsite in the Lochend area near Cochrane, Alta., on April 7. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

'Sudden failure.' Horse breeder still feeling effects of uncontrollable wellsite blast in 2009

MATT KIELTYKA
Metro in Vancouver

Glenda Wagar jolted from bed at 3 a.m. as the roar of jetting gas boomed through the frigid November air.

It smelled like rotten eggs.

"There's a problem, I can't breathe," she clutched for her sleeping boyfriend.

Confused and weary, she left the safety of her home in the dead of night to investigate.

The rural landscape outside her front door was engulfed in a thick, white fog that rolled with the countryside.

"I couldn't even see the little trees across the driveway. It was just fogged right in."

The social worker and horse breeder spent the next six hours searching her property — a quarter section of farmland, and another half section of grazing land for her 60 horses in Pouce Coupe (just south of Dawson Creek in northeast B.C.) — for broken sewer lines, while frantically trying to call neighbours and emergency responders to find out what happened.

At 9 a.m., with the unrelenting blast of "jet engines" and stench still in the air, Wager finally learned the severity of her situation.

"A truck drove up the yard and was honking like crazy," she recalls.

It was a local hunter who had taken his life into his own hands to warn residents they were at risk.

"He said, 'You're in the middle of a cloud. Get out, get out, get out!"

On Nov. 22, 2009, Encana wellsite A5-7-77-14 L W6M, near Wagar's ranch, failed in sudden and spectacular fashion.

A B.C. Oil and Gas Commission investigation found that a tee section of piping developed a leak when blasted from the inside by fracture sand (used to break up shale rock formations) that should have been cleaned out after the fracking process.

"It just peeled that steel out like it was cheese," figures Pat Gerlinsky, Wagar's boyfriend.

The leak intensified for hours until 8:38 a.m., when it developed into a full-blown "sudden failure," according to the incident report.

The emergency shutoff valve closed automatically at 9:05 a.m. but was unable to stop the "uncontrollable" flow of gas because the valve was downstream from the failure point.

It wasn't until the Encana control room at Hythe, Alta., more than 60 kilometres away, received a hydrogen sulfide (also known as sour gas) alarm at 9:10 a.m. that the company's response to the incident began.

A total of 18 people were evacuated from within a 1.34-kilometre radius of the well.

Most had gotten themselves out of harm's way.

By the time the well was shut

cut into the land by its snaking rivers, forests and swampy muskeg. Welcome to industry. It means jobs and loads of money. But getting the gas out of the ground at the state of fracking in Canada and the potential health implications

OF FRACKING

Wagar, who breeds horses, says the mares had fewer foals the year of the sour gas leak. EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Gerlinsky and Wagar walk down the road to visit their horses. Due to Wagar's health problems, she plans to sell half the herd. EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Striking a sour note even now

"It hasn't gotten better. ... There's always a pain there." Glenda Wagar, horse breeder

at 10:45 a.m., approximately 30,000 cubic metres of natural gas containing approximately 6,200 ppm (parts per million) of potentially lethal — though the commission classified it as "low level of toxicity" — sour gas were released into the atmosphere.

Encana, through a Community Environmental Justice Forum, paid out $250,000 in compensation to the Pouce Coupe fire department, emergency evacuation preparedness programs at Tate Creek Community Centre and Ducks Unlimited Canada wetlands projects.

"Encana took full responsibility for the failure and deeply regrets its occurrence," said Encana spokesperson Doug McIntyre in an email to Metro. "Encana implemented a number of mitigation measures including recommendations from the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission to help prevent this type of incident from happening in the future."

But having lived through the ordeal, Wagar says her health, especially her respiratory system, has been permanently damaged.

"I was coughing and my eyes were watering and I had a hard time breathing," she said.

Doctors, through X-rays and breathing tests, told Wagar her lungs are "compromised" but can't link it to the gas leak.

The dizzy spells she experiences since the leak mean Wagar can't drive for long distances and that she's been unable to continue working as a social worker.

She also can't ride horses much anymore, the love of her life since she was five years old.

Time has not restored Wagar's faith in the gas industry, especially as fracking operations in northeast B.C. expand to feed the province's liquefied natural gas dreams.

"Like I told Encana, 'You should have been finding dead people,'" she said, stone-faced.

Time also does not heal all wounds. "It hasn't gotten better. The dizziness is getting worse and the pain in my chest is the same. It hasn't gotten worse or better," she said. "There's always a pain there."

Liquefied natural gas. It's a pipeline to prosperity for B.C.'s Fort St. John

The short drive from the North Peace Regional Airport to the municipality of Fort St. John, B.C. reveals much about where the wealth of the northeast of the province lies.

It's no Vegas strip, but signs welcome you to the "Energetic" north as modern new corporate offices for Shell Canada, Talisman Energy, Canadian Natural Resources, Can-Am Geomatics B.C. and the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission line the road into "B.C.'s Energy Capital."

The region has sizeable forestry and agriculture industries, but make no mistake: Peace Country is gas country.

And gas country has been good to Fort St. John, a fast growing city of approximately 21,600 people making an median family income of $98,643.

By contrast, the median family income in Canada was $76,511 in 2010.

Creating a community

"Ten years ago, 50 per cent of our roads were gravel with open ditches. Streetlights were pretty much non-existent and sidewalks were non-existent," said Fort St. John mayor Lori Ackerman. "We have been able to get those roads redone, and paved, curbed and guttered. We've got rec facilities. The reality is we have been working very hard to create a community where young professionals are going to enjoy life."

The growth, she said, has been attributable to a natural gas industry that has taken advantage of hydraulic fracturing to extract the region's abundant supply of shale gas.

More than 9,000 wells have been drilled in the province since 2005, the vast majority of them in this corner of B.C.

Representing just two per cent of the voting population, Ackerman is quick to point out the region and the oil and gas industry ("There's very little oil. I think we say oil and gas simply because it rolls off the tongue better") have been living in relative obscurity for decades.

Fort St. John Mayor Lori Ackerman discusses the anticipated boom in natural gas extraction. EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Spectra Energy's McMahon gas processing plant in Taylor, B.C., is seen from the Alaska Highway on April 29. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Striking it rich

+$22,132

Families in the gas-powered city of Fort St. John, B.C., make $22,132 more than the national median income.

Lucrative resource

But that changed when British Columbia Premier Christy Clark pinned the province's future on liquefied natural gas (LNG) and exporting northeast B.C.'s most lucrative resource to emerging Asian markets.

The trillion-dollar industry (a combination of gas extraction in northeast B.C. and processing and export by sea in the northwest) will create 100,000 jobs and eradicate the provincial debt, Clark promises.

David Hughes, a former geologist with the Geological Survey of Canada and current president of Global Sustainability Research, forecasts up to 50,000 new wells would have to be drilled over the next 27 years to meet the 14.6 billion cubic feet per day demands of the seven LNG export applications already approved by the National Energy Board as of January.

That would increase B.C.'s gas production to nearly 50 per cent more than what all of Canada currently produces.

Potential risks

That's grabbed the attention of not just investors, industry and government, but also environmental groups, First Nations and academics worried about the potential environmental and health risks associated with widespread fracking.

A human health assessment is underway for the Ministry of Health and documents leaked to The Canadian Press in April show B.C. Environment Ministry staff is worried methane emissions from fracking "can have a significant impact on overall emissions."

All of a sudden, all eyes are on Fort St. John.

Ackerman — who has four children working in the oil and gas industry and says there's never been a cause for fear — doesn't know if the provincial government's claims are legitimate. She's too busy dealing with the real world.

The city is currently going through a boundary extension and the population is projected to nearly double — to 40,000 — in 10 years, regardless of whether LNG pans out or not.

Her city needs doctors, nurses, schools and amenities to keep up with the growth gas extraction and the proposed Site C hydroelectric dam will bring.

Unprecedented expansion

From coast to coast, there's a huge demand for skilled workers in this remote region east of the Rocky Mountains.

"There's going to be development. It's going to get more bustling," she said. "If we're going to take advantage of the opportunities in front of us, I think LNG has to be in consideration. I'm not sure where in this province — until our forestry gets back on its feet — we'd see any other revenue sources from."

As the industry gears up for unprecedented expansion, Ackerman believes it's advanced and responsible enough to do so without harming its neighbours. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

MORE IN OUR FRACKING SERIES

Thursday

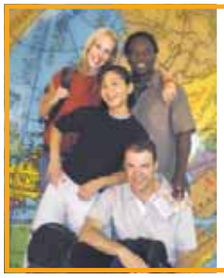
- **The industry.** What's being done to keep people safe.

Friday

- **Cautionary tale.** Alberta ranchers warn British Columbia to heed warnings.

Online

- **Thinglink.** What is fracking?



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WestJet, Air Canada rivalry hits new heights

Increased competition. Calgary airline could give Canada's largest carrier a run for its money if its 'value-based' global service gets off ground

Clive Beddoe, chairman and co-founder of WestJet Airlines, speaks at its annual general meeting of shareholders in Toronto on Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

WestJet Airlines says it could take its rivalry with Air Canada overseas by launching an international service using large wide-body aircraft.

The Calgary-based airline said Tuesday the new service could be in place in one-and-a-half to three-and-a-half years, if its board gives the green light. WestJet has been discussing the move with its pilots and also meeting with potential airplane lessors and manufacturers.

"So no decision made yet, but we're getting all the pieces in place to be able to make a good decision," president and CEO Gregg Saretsky said during a conference call to discuss its first-quarter results, which saw a lower profit.

WestJet is already getting into the European market by launching service next month to Dublin from St. John's, N.L., using its narrow-body Boeing 737 aircraft. It said demand is so strong the seasonal service will be extended by about three weeks to Oct. 25.

"All of that gives us great confidence that there is strong demand for a value-based international product that WestJet is looking to pursue," Saretsky said before the airline's annual meeting in Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kids these days

The 'nutritionally aware' generation

GETTY IMAGES

Subway is testing hummus and thinner slices of deli meats that look more appealing as it looks to keep pace with changing eating trends.

The test may appeal to millennials, who are more "nutritionally aware" than any other past generation, said a Subway executive. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Freedom of press

Media fight for right to use drones

More than a dozen media organizations challenged the U.S. government's ban on the use of drones by journalists Tuesday, saying the Federal Aviation Administration's position violates First Amendment protections for news gathering. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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so good

No peace in Apple vs. Samsung smartphone patent war

When a jury ordered Samsung to pay Apple $119 million US for copying features of the iPhone, it was the latest chapter in the worldwide legal fight between the top two smartphone companies.

Friday's damage award was far less than the $2.2 billion Apple demanded and the $930 million a previous jury ordered Samsung to pay after an earlier patent trial involving older-generation products. The jury also trimmed $158,000 from the latest award after finding Apple infringed one of Samsung's patents in making the iPhone line.

Both companies have filed lawsuits and other legal actions in Germany, England, France, South Korea, Japan, the Netherlands, Australia and elsewhere with mixed results.

Although U.S. District Judge Lucy Koh in San Jose urged the companies to settle their differences, a settlement conference in February ended without an agreement and no end in litigation is in sight.

So, who's winning?

It depends on the definition of victory. Samsung Electronics Co. has surpassed Apple Inc. as the top smartphone maker on the planet. Samsung has captured 31 per cent of the $330 billion worldwide market compared with Apple's 15.6 per cent.

Big demand

$2.2B

While Apple demanded a $2.2-billion US damage award, a jury ordered Samsung to pay the iPhone maker $119 million in an ongoing legal battle.

Why is Apple continuing its aggressive legal campaign?

"Apple simply cannot walk away from its inventions," Apple lawyer Harold McElhinny told jurors during closing arguments last week. Samsung lawyers argued during the trial that Apple's real target is Google Inc., the maker of the Android software that Samsung and other smartphone makers use in their devices.

What's next?

Each company will ask the judge in San Jose to ban sales of the devices found to infringe the other's patents. Legal experts said those arguments are likely to fail because lawyers have to prove consumers, for instance, purchased iPhones solely because of the Samsung photo organizational patent. Apple lawyers will have to prove that consumers who purchased Samsung devices did so because of the "slide-to-unlock" feature.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Going out of business. After 35 years clothier Jacob files for bankruptcy

Women's clothing retailer Jacob Inc. has filed for bankruptcy and will be liquidating inventory at all 92 of its stores across Canada in the coming weeks.

The Montreal-based company has been under creditor protection since November 2010 and underwent operational restructuring. But the company says it was unable to make the business profitable or to find new financiers.

In a release issued on Tuesday, the company cited the challenging economy plus the influx of new international retailers to the Canadian marketplace among the factors leading to the company's inability to overcome its financial challenges.

"Although we did not achieve the desired result, I am proud of the passion and dedication that the Jacob team showcased over these past few years while trying to bring the company back to financial health," president and founder Joey Basmaji said in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A man walks by a Jacob clothing store in Montreal on Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pet food

Nestlé has a dog in this legal fight

Nestlé Purina PetCare Co. filed suit Tuesday against Blue Buffalo Co. Ltd., accusing its competitor of misleading consumers about the ingredients in its dog and cat foods.

The lawsuit accuses Blue Buffalo of false advertising, disparagement and unjust enrichment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

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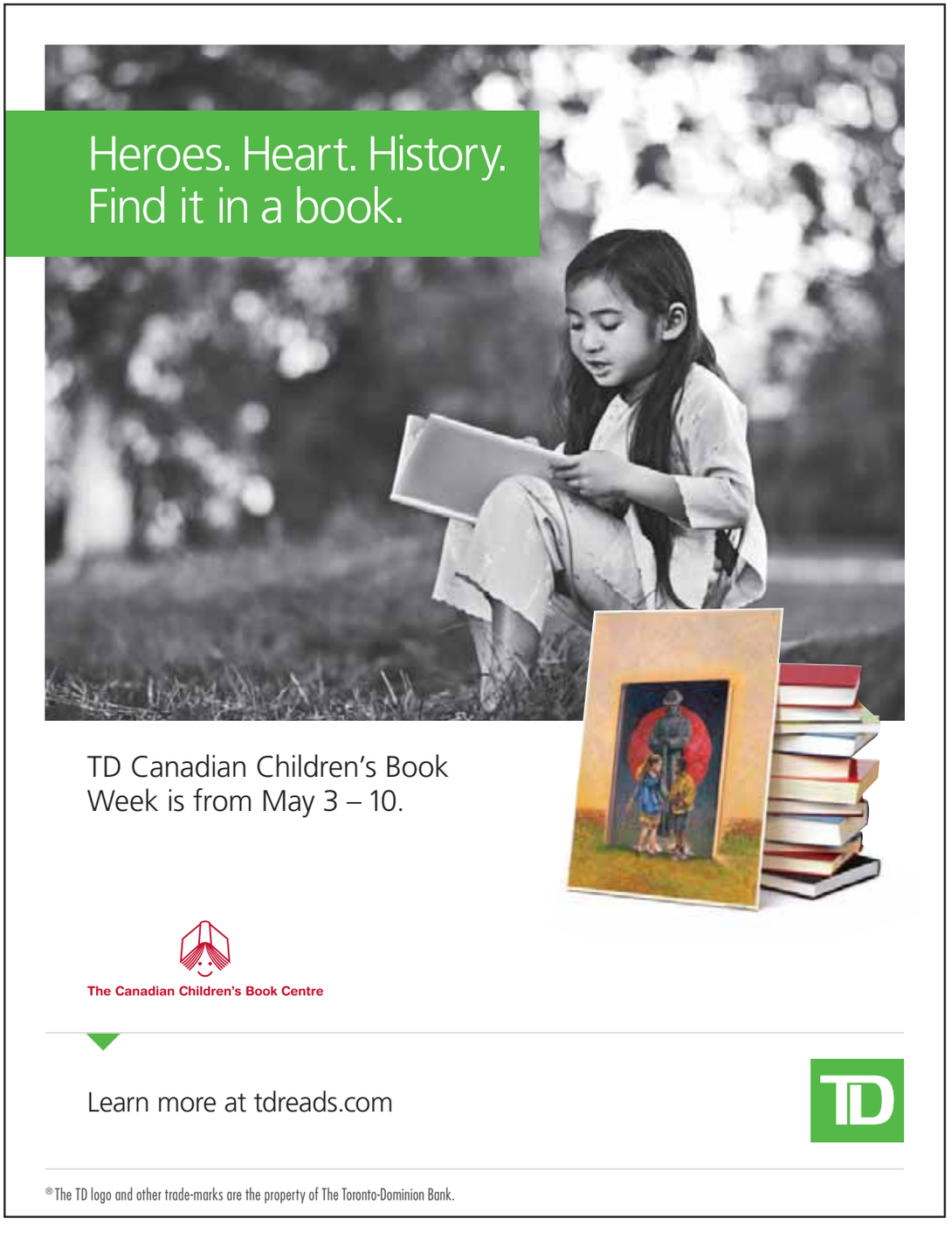
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CINCO DE MAYO, LOS BANDITOS & LIME

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

One of the funniest classic Monty Python sketches features legendary 18th century highwayman Dennis Moore accosting a stage coach and demanding that the occupants "Hand over all the lupins you've got!"

"Lupins?" asks the puzzled victim. "You mean the flower, lupin?"

"Yes, lupins. Come on, come on."

"Well, we haven't got any lupins."

It goes on. Laugh if you will, but truth is stranger than fiction.

Mexican drug cartels are muscling in on the fruit crop — limes, in particular.

Yes, limes, the little green citrus fruit. Turns out Mexico is the world's leading exporter of limes.

Drug cartels, finding it increasingly difficult to get drugs across the U.S. border, are running extortion rackets on lime growers, threatening dire consequences like burning down the farm unless the growers fork over a percentage of their crop.

The crop was already suffering the effects of a rough winter, even by Mexican standards. One cartel, the so-called Knights Templar, based in the Michoacan, the main lime-producing centre of Mexico, saw an opportunity to profit from the shortage and squeeze the farmers, and their limes, dry.

This dastardly lime crime comes at a bad time: Cinco de Mayo. Limes are an essential compañero to a full array of celebration beverages: mojitos, margaritas and, of course, the ever-popular cerveza.

Back in January, limes sold for an average $22 US per case. Since the desperadoes got involved, the price has skyrocketed to $100 US a case, and as much as $1.54 per lime (in Calgary). Airlines have removed limes from the menu, substituting lemons instead.

So far, no one has demanded that we hand over our lemons.

Really, it's only a matter of time. The cartels are already starting to move into the avocado market. Holy guacamole, Batman!

It was bad enough when these banditos were exploiting human misery and addiction, but now that they are having an impact on our very guacamole, they've gone too far. Call in the GEA (the Guacamole Enforcement Agency)!

You can imagine what's going on in Hollywood right now. Screenwriters and directors are huddling over beer and lemons, pitching concepts featuring supermodels who track down lime bandits and cross the border to recover the contraband fruit shipments and restore them to their rightful owners.

Meanwhile, in the "real" world, lime farmers have actually formed vigilante groups to fight back against the cartels. Fearing further Cinco de Mayhem, the Mexican military has moved in, demanding that the vigilante groups dissolve by El Decimo de Mayo. Talk about a Mexican standoff.

Enjoy that dip while you can, amigo, and pray the guacamole bandits don't go after our lupins.

ZOOM

Turns out it was just a reflector

Fast-changing lighting made this photograph a challenging one to capture. "With the late afternoon sun, the whole area was changing in appearance minute-by-minute," said photographer Darrell Staggs. Staggs used a glare-reducing polarizing filter "to capture the full reflection of the canyon wall, but also retain the 'shadow' reflection of the hiker." PETER MACDIARMID/GETTY IMAGES

A real cliffhanger ... actually it's a fake one

This image seems to show a hiker teetering on a cliff's edge, but a closer inspection reveals that it's a pool of water acting as a perfect mirror for canyon walls.

The optical-illusion picture, taken in Glen Canyon in Utah, is a winning entry in this year's Share the Experience photo contest, which celebrates America's national parks in pictures.

METRO

But what is real, anyway?

Staggs, who now specializes in optical-illusion photography, hopes that viewers will appreciate how "the contradictions in the image begin to give way to the truth of the reflection," and thus see the picture's artistic side.

"This is how a photograph can transition into art — a photo to look at, and art to think about."

METRO

Photog's view

"Even though I've looked at it countless times, the picture remains an elusive illusion. It's difficult to discern what is really happening there."

Darrell Staggs, 50, chemical engineer & amateur photographer from Mooresville, Ind.

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MetroTube

Japan comes by its eccentricity honestly

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

If you're anything like us, you've spent a lot of time wondering how the Japanese manage to come up with an endless parade of curious, absurd, amazing, helpful and awe-inspiring ideas. Cat cafés. Love hotels. The world's most robust vending-machine shopping. How do they conceive of it all?

Well, as suggested by this lesson in Nakizumo — a rite-of-spring crying contest involving babies and gently antagonistic sumo wrestlers — the Japanese have a centuries-old tradition of esoteric cultural development that has paved the way for the wonderfully one-of-a-kind place it is today.
(Via Ronin Dave on YouTube)

GETTY IMAGES

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app. Don't reply! Chef gets some social media advice.

Films to whet your appetite

Foodie movies. A new film starring Jon Favreau may offer some tantalizing food scenes, but it's not Hollywood's only foray into the kitchen

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Jon Favreau (left) stars in Chef. CONTRIBUTED

Chefs are the Food Network's stock in trade. From Bobby Flay to Giada De Laurentiis, and Iron Chef to Top Chef, the delicious channel has created a cult of celebrity around the people who make our food.

A new film, Chef, takes a celebrity, actor Jon Favreau, and casts him as a restaurateur who has lost his way and desperately wants to reclaim his cooking cred.

In the film, he plays Carl Casper, a Los Angeles chef who hightails it to his Miami hometown when his fancy restaurant gets a scathing review from an online food critic (Oliver Platt).

There he buys El Jefe Cubanos, a food truck he plans on driving across the country with his son (Emjay Anthony).

High on food porn — there's even a shrimp scampi seduction scene — and Cuban sandwich recipes, Chef is a movie that may whet audience appetites for other movies about the people that make our food.

In The Big Night, Stanley Tucci plays Secondo, owner of an Italian restaurant called Paradise. The place is slowly going broke but may get a boost from a visit by singer Louis Prima.

If Prima shows up, the restaurant will have a big night and be saved from bankruptcy.

It's not only one of the greatest food movies ever made (you'll want to go for risotto afterward) but it also features what Rolling Stone's Peter Travers called "an unforgettable acting duet" between Tucci and Tony Shalhoub, who plays his temperamental chef brother, "that is as richly authentic as the food."

Ratatouille takes a different approach. An unusual cross between America's Next Top Chef and Willard, the Pixar movie does something no other film has been able to (not that a lot have tried): It makes rats cute. Lovable, even.

The story of a cooking rat is chef and TV presenter Anthony Bourdain's favourite food film. "They got the food, the reactions to food, and tiny details to food really right," said The Taste host, "down to the barely noticeable pink burns on one of the character's forearms.

New movie

"A new film, Chef, takes a celebrity, actor Jon Favreau, and casts him as a restaurateur who has lost his way..."

I really thought it captured a passionate love of food in a way that very few other films have."

Real chefs are featured in the documentary Spinning Plates. Weaving together three stories from a trio of very different restaurateurs, the film shows the personal and professional side of the food biz as well as the connection to the community that's so important for success.

It cuts through the Food Network's simplistic food-family-and-feelings approach with a tagline that sums up its philosophy: "It's not what you cook. It's why."

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Seth Rogen's getting o but he's still young at

Funny guy. His character in Neighbors may have lost touch with his youth, but Seth Rogan is still very much rolling with the punches

MATT PRIGGE
Metro World News

Seth Rogen wages war against a fraternity that moves in next door in Neighbors. CONTRIBUTED

Seth Rogen isn't old; he's only 32. But he has more responsibilities than many his age, even if the work he puts out — including last summer's This Is the End, which he also co-directed with his longtime friend Evan Goldberg — is generally about youngish men struggling with responsibilities and maturity.

In Neighbors, he plays Mac, who's not only married (to Rose Byrne), but also a new father. Their boring life is upended when a frat house, led by Zac Efron, moves in next door.

The film's writers talk about how this was borne out of anxiety about aging. Is that something you share?
I had no specific fears about turning 30. It was more the general compiling of responsibilities, coupled with the lack of time to do the stuff that you used to do more of. And the physical repercussions of trying to do the stuff that you used to do more of (laughs).

The hangovers suddenly get brutal when you turn 30.
They're much worse. It takes me weeks to recover now.

The frat boys aren't completely demonized here. They're sympathetic at times.
I think in earlier versions of the script, the frat was much more vilified. But Zac is just such a good dude, and Chris [Mintz-Plasse] and Dave [Franco] and Jerrod [Carmichael] are all such nice, sweet guys that it inherently made them not that bad. It made them more sympathetic, in a great way.

These films seem to have such a democratic way of being put together. Everyone chips in.
Definitely. The audience is probably the most important element. That's the loudest voice in the process, in some ways. We test the movies a lot, we see what gets laughs, what doesn't, and we really listen not to the words they're saying but the feeling that you have when you're watching the movie with the audience. We really will change the movie heavily when we do that.

Has that happened a lot?
Yeah. We don't change the story that much, but the specific things that people are saying, we do change. If they don't laugh we'll try different jokes. And that's one of the good things about improv — you get a lot of options. So if one joke sucks you have other options you can use.

How did you prep to play a dad?

Bad Little Kid

New film in the works based on Stephen King short story

Stephen King's short story Bad Little Kid, published as an ebook for French and German audiences this March, has been snapped up by documentary maker Laurent Bouzereau for a film adaptation. Known for helming a wide variety of "Making Of" featurettes, Bouzereau was also the writer and director behind A Night at the Movies: The Horrors of Stephen King.

Bad Little Kid is about how one evil child affects the lives of those he comes into contact with. AFP

older, heart

Quoted

"I couldn't even tell you what Mac does for a living, honestly. I don't know what we're doing in that place. Just working in an office. It just seemed like a place people ... work."

Seth Rogen, who plays Mac in Neighbors on how little he actually knows about his character

Uh, I did not prep for this role. I do not do preparation for my roles as an actor. I just do it. I couldn't even tell you what Mac does for a living, honestly. I don't know what we're doing in that place. Just working in an office. It just seemed like a place people … work (laughs).

Do you have any experience with frats?
Not really, no. I don't know if I've ever been in a real frat house. I didn't go to college, and in Canada they're not that big. I wrote an episode about frats when we did the show Undeclared, and that was probably the most experience I ever had, up until this movie. After seeing the movie, though, it seems like it's not that bad. It seems fun.

Comedy of errors. Rose Byrne is glad her Neighbors character isn't the usual 'nagging wife'

Frats aren't much of a thing in Australia, where the actress Rose Byrne hails from. In Neighbors, she and Seth Rogen play suburban parents whose lives are upended when a frat moves in next door. For Byrne it continues her move into comedy, after a long stint doing mainly drama, like TV's Damages, as well as the occasional horror film (28 Weeks Later, Insidious). In fact, she's been doing films like Get Him to the Greek and Bridesmaids for so long, she might have forgotten how to be serious.

Rose Byrne in Neighbors HANDOUT

It's nice that you get to do your natural Australian accent for a change.
Initially, I thought it would be too jarring. Then I thought it could work for the character, because Australians tend to have a wild streak. It's a big drinking culture. There's Irish and Scottish and English descent. And (her character) is so irresponsible. She's not willing to grow up and thinks she can get away with the things she's doing.

She's also not the usual stereotype of the killjoy wife with a manchild husband.
We really wanted to not make her the stock nagging wife. "Don't go out to the party!" They even have a scene where they reference that, and he says, "You've got to be responsible, you're the woman," and that misogyny. I think it made for a funnier film, making them a comedy duo rather than have them against each other.

This is a comedy, but like a lot of these Apatow universe comedies, it's about a real anxiety, and it doesn't pick sides between the couple and the frat.
I have friends, homeowners, who've seen it who find it really anxiety-inducing. Then again, kids who are 18 or 19 would probably find our characters really annoying. It represents both points of view. But I really see Teddy (the frat leader, played by Zac Efron) as quite villainous, because he's so manipulative and vain. And stupid as well. He's defining himself so greatly around this ridiculous role in this fraternity. Our characters are more bumbling. MATT PRIGGE

Fourth time's a charm. Beverly Hills Cop 4 to hit the silver screen in 2016

The police comedy franchise will return to theatres in March, 2016 with Eddie Murphy in the title role once again, Paramount has indicated.

The franchise will be revived through this fourth instalment, which will arrive in theatres 22 years after Beverly Hills Cop 3. Eddie Murphy will reprise his legendary role as Axel Foley, the fearless, fast-talking cop.

For the fourth Beverly Hills Cop movie, the protagonist will leave sunny California to return to his hometown of Detroit.

Jerry Bruckheimer and Paramount are producing the feature, which will be helmed by Brett Ratner. The director behind the Rush Hour franchise worked with Eddie Murphy on the comedy Tower Heist in 2011.

Last season, Beverly Hills Cop nearly returned to the screen as a TV series, as CBS ordered a pilot for a comedy on the life of Axel Foley's son. The project hit a dead end, but Eddie Murphy's brief appearance in the pilot sparked a wave of enthusiasm for the character of Axel Foley. AFP

Eddie Murphy is set to return as Axel Foley. CONTRIBUTED

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Megan Fox ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Pregnant Megan Fox was 'constantly on the verge of vomiting' on TMNT set

Megan Fox admits that both her pregnancies with husband Brian Austin Green were complete surprises. "We can't let Brian near me anymore," she joked to Ellen DeGeneres during an interview. Joking aside, a pregnancy coming out of nowhere can be a bit stressful, especially if you're just starting production on Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, as Fox was. "It's an action movie and requires a lot of running and jumping and stunts. Anyone that's been pregnant knows your first trimester can be pretty rough and you're nauseous all day long," she says. "The producers would come see me in the morning in the makeup trailer and I would be clinging to a box of saltines. We kept pickles in the refrigerator for me, and I was constantly on the verge of vomiting."

Kate Hudson

How to lose a friend in a few years (if you're Kate): become 'not a nice person'

Former BFFs Kate Hudson and Jessica Alba are reportedly not the friends they once were, and it's all due to Hudson's change in attitude when she started seeing Muse front man Matt Bellamy, according to Radar Online. "It made Kate believe she is rock 'n' roll royalty and the next Gwyneth Paltrow," a source says. "Kate has wrecked the friendship, and Jessica pins the start of their troubles to the beginning of Kate's relationship with Matt a few years ago. Unfortunately, Kate has become not a nice person since she's been with Matt. It's sad, but Kate and Jessica's friendship is completely done. They used to be so close, too."

The Word

Ansel plays Shailene's bro in one film, lover in another

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Usually, movie stars gush to the press that they can't believe how amazing their co-stars were. But Shailene Woodley, star of The Fault in Our Stars, is going around telling the press that she can't believe Ansel Elgort was cast at all.

It's not as mean as it sounds. She's actually a big fan of his. Woodley, who plays a terminally ill teen in The Fault in Our Stars, also starred in the recent dystopian thriller Divergent. In that film, Elgort played her brother, so Woodley was certain that their onscreen siblinghood would keep him from playing her love interest in TFiOS: the dreamy Augustus Waters.

"I actually didn't think at first that he would get it, or that even if he was good that he wouldn't get it, because of our relationship in Divergent," Woodley told E! Online.

It is unusual to see that kind of incestuous casting in back-to-back films, but Woodley says Elgort's just that good. "Everybody in the room was sort of like, 'Wow,'" she said.

But it's going to make the next Divergent movie a little weird to watch. I'll keep expecting Tris to make out with her brother.

And it was all mellow: Chris and Gwyneth continue to pal around

For a husband and wife who are "consciously uncoupling," Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin seem pretty cool about hanging out together, according to People magazine. Last month, they joined forces for son Moses' 8th birthday — and this was after heading to the Bahamas for a family vacation following the announcement they were splitting up. And now they've been seen together again during a group dinner at Il Ristorante de Giorgio Baldi in Santa Monica, Calif., where sources spotted them smiling and laughing as they departed the establishment post-dinner with friends.

Gwyneth Paltrow

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app for more images from the Okanagan Valley

Deserts and mountains and vineyards, oh my!

The Okanagan Valley. Want to forget this brutal winter? This spring, take a trip through some of the nicest wine country in Canada

DOUGLAS PATON
life@metronews.ca

These views will have you Kelowna-fornia dreaming. CONTRIBUTED/TOURISM BC

There's something almost surreal about the view.

The snow-frosted mountain contrast starkly with the 20-plus-degree temperatures, blue skies and the cherry blossoms that surround you on the valley floor. But, from your vantage point, sitting on a winery patio with a glass of wine, and enjoying the weather in short sleeves and flip-flops, it's just what you need to shake off the winter blues from a season that felt like it was ushering in a new ice age.

Nestled between the Monashee Mountain range to the east and the Cascade Mountains to the west, British Columbia's Okanagan Valley is one of those places that makes Canada a truly unique country.

With summertime temperatures that push into the 40s, without even a hint of humidity, and winters that usually only drop below zero long enough to harvest icewine grapes, the Okanagan has become one of the best wine producing regions in Canada.

For those looking to spend a long weekend jump-starting the summer, and who want a chance to experience what the wineries of the Okanagan Valley have to offer, there is no better time to visit than during the Spring Wine Festival, which runs until May 11.

For many of the wineries in the Okanagan, the festival, currently in its 20th year, is the perfect way to usher in the first crop of tourists for the year and to show off their new vintages. Many wineries host wonderful events ranging from food and wine pairings to grand soirées and it's possible to plan an entire weekend around those events.

For those who want a more self-guided tour, perhaps the single hardest decision you'll make all weekend is where to start. After all, there are over 200 award-winning wineries in the Okanagan, and you do only have three days.

Perhaps the best piece of advice I can offer is to find a central location and work from there. You're never really more than a hour's drive away from any one part of the Okanagan Valley, but the more centrally located you are, the less driving you have to do and the more wine you can enjoy.

Located approximately 60 kilometres to the south of the Kelowna airport, the town of Summerland offers up the perfect central location and the 14 wineries of the Summerland's Bottleneck Drive provide a fantastic sampling of what you can expect from the Valley, everything from award-winning sparkling wines to small-batch wines that sell out almost as soon as they're offered up for sale.

Like many places in the Okanagan, Summerland is not only about the wine. The Kettle Valley Steam Railway offers a scenic tour through vineyards, orchards and gulches and, for the hikers, you can't beat the view from the top of Giant's Head Mountain, almost smack dab in the middle of town.

Heading south from Summerland takes you past the wine country B.C. VQA Wine Information Centre in Penticton — which sells wine from many B.C. wineries and can help you plan out your route — through Oliver's Golden Mile and down into Canada's only desert region. The heat from the Northern tip of the Sonoran Desert helps the winemakers from the Oliver-Osoyoos Winery Association grow bold red wines.

Like all good things, every visit to the Okanagan must come to an end and, if you're like most people, you'll probably find yourself thinking, "I really wish I'd bought just one more bottle of wine to share with my friends back home." Rest assured, the Kelowna Airport has you covered with the only wine shop located beyond security in Canada. And, yes, you can take any wine you buy at the airport wine shop on the plane with you.

If you go...

- **The Spring Wine Festival.** Runs May 1-11 thewinefestivals.com.
- **Summerland's Bottleneck Drive.** bottleneckdrive.com.
- **Kettle Valley Steam Railway.** kettlevalleyrail.org.
- **BC VQA Wine Information Centre.** pentictonwineinfo.com.
- **Oliver-Osoyoos Winery Association.** oliverosoyoos.com.

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Bucket List

Sailing on the Bosphorus

All the great waterways of the world have their enclaves of amazing homes. But when it comes to the wooden Ottoman waterfront mansions that line the infamous Bosphorus Strait, separating the European and Asian sides of Istanbul, Turkey, you're in for some prime sail-by gawking. These "yali" are generally secondary "beach" houses, built between the late 1690s and the early 1900s by wealthy families of the region. On the rare occasion when one goes on the market, the ticket price ranges an astronomical $85 million to $200 million, with the reasoning being, according to a tour guide, that "there are many houses to buy in this world, but only one Bosphorus."

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Live like a local when you're abroad

Authentic travel. Want to get a true taste of local culture? Here are some tips for stepping off the tourist track

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Having an experience that feels authentic to the destination is often a highlight of any holiday. But how does a tourist find those secret spots and have interactions that make them feel less like an outsider?

Book alternative accommodation. Instead of a hotel, stay somewhere that's off the tourist track, consider a bed and breakfast, check into a university residence (during the summer months) or rent a house in a residential neighbourhood.

You will be more exposed to the rhythms of everyday life taking out the garbage, chatting with the neighbours or shopping at the local grocery store.

Avoid the usual suspects. Ask a shopkeeper, waiter or stranger on the street where their favourite neighbourhood haunt is, whether it's a café, bar or restaurant.

Clarify that you are willing to travel and not necessarily looking for something close by. Don't ask the hotel concierge as they are often trained to send you to places designed to serve tourists.

Pick up a local entertainment paper and search the current listings for exhibits, clubs or concerts.

Do something on vacation that you would normally reserve for home. Go ahead and cheat on your stylist and get a haircut at that 1950s era barbershop on the corner, work out at the local gym or go to a church service. Watching people worship is an intimate cultural experience that can give great insight into a destination. Confirm in advance that you are welcome to participate, either actively or from the sidelines.

Also ensure that you are dressed appropriately; the last thing you want to do is offend someone.

Find your tribe. If you have a hobby that you love, whether it's knitting, books or cycling, try and hook up with like-minded locals. Research your destination for clubs, enthusiasts' groups or the local hangout. It's not only a great way to see a new destination, but meeting people who share common interests increases your chances of a striking up a conversation, which could lead to other tips, advice and discoveries.

Take it online. Many the trip-sharing advice sites like TripAdvisor.com are useful in helping you find those hidden gems.

Follow the Twitter handle of the city that you're visiting for updates on local events or download one of the numerous apps that offer insider opportunities.

EatWith, for example, connects travellers interested in a home-cooked meal with a host willing to welcome them in to their private dining room.

Connect with your tribe when abroad: Find people who share your interests — like cycling. ISTOCK

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How-to

Jazz up your travel experience

1. You don't have to sleep at the fancy hotels to enjoy them. Pop by for a drink at the bar before you head out for dinner.

2. Ditto brunch (such as at Cecconi's Miami Beach, above). Or even better, high tea.

3. Triple ditto if the posh hotel has a nightclub that's on the DJ circuit.

4. Some hotels will let you hang out at their pool for the day for a small fee, especially in areas with a high density of tourists.

5. Swank hotel lobbies make for excellent people-watching — and that's free.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Trend

CONTRIBUTED/EDEN ROC

Canadian women travel more

Chalk another one up for the importance of "me time." A new survey from hotel-finding giant Booking.com reports that Canadian women travel solo more often than women in any other country except Australia, with whom they are tied. A whopping 76 per cent said they have headed to the airport alone before. Escaping their daily lives tops the lists of reasons respondents gave (at 62 per cent), with spa holidays, beach escapes and shopping trips voted as the preferred travel themes.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Deal

Aeroplan hooks up with Shop.ca

Aeroplan announced last week it has signed a deal with Shop.ca that will allow Aeroplan members to earn travel miles on purchases they make at the popular online marketplace. Perks include free shipping and returns — and for a limited time, Aeroplan members can earn 15 miles for every dollar they spend on their first purchase at Shop.ca. Keep an eye out for the regular special deals that will inevitably ensue.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Green and gorgeous in Nicaragua

Eco-luxury. Kick back and relax at one of these luxe lodges in Central America — being green never felt so good

ANDREW JOHN VIRTUE DOBSON
metronews.ca/TIFF
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Jicaro Island Ecolodge offers spectacular views of Mombacho Volcano. ANDREW DOBSON/FOR METRO

Looking to do something a little different with your beach and jungle vacation this year?

Nicaragua, a relatively undiscovered tropical country of active volcanoes and lakes, supports age-old cultures and boasts wildlife wonders like monkeys, macaws and the occasional jaguar.

Today the eco-luxe resort concept is trending across the country, offering visitors with a heart for ecotourism and love of luxury the prettiest paradise.

Irene Edwards is the founder of award winning adventure travel company Greenspot Travel and describes the eco-luxe experience as "the art of combining comfort and a certain level of pampering service with immersion in nature, while integrating a strong element of caring and preserving for the natural environment and traditional cultural heritage."

Just a short boat ride from the colonial town of Granada, Jicaro Island Ecolodge offers spectacular views of towering Mombacho Volcano on Lake Nicaragua.

In under 10 minutes one can tour the small private island, which includes a wee sandy beach, sun-drenched yoga deck, boutique spa, breezy dining room and refreshing turquoise pool.

The experience here is intimate, a perfect honeymoon destination for those looking to romance themselves.

The island is dotted with just nine, two-storey casitas, which certainly wow.

A plush king-sized bed can be found upstairs while a spacious living room on the main floor connects to an outside deck where a comfy hammock offers the perfect place to put your feet up and enjoy a jaw-dropping lake view.

If you go...

- **Greenspot Travel.** greenspot.travel
- **Jicaro Island Ecolodge.** jicarolodge.com
- **Morgan's Rock.** morgansrock.com

Morgan's Rock can be found on the shores of the Southern Pacific Coast of Nicaragua, a short 20-minute drive from the care-free surf town of San Juan del Sur.

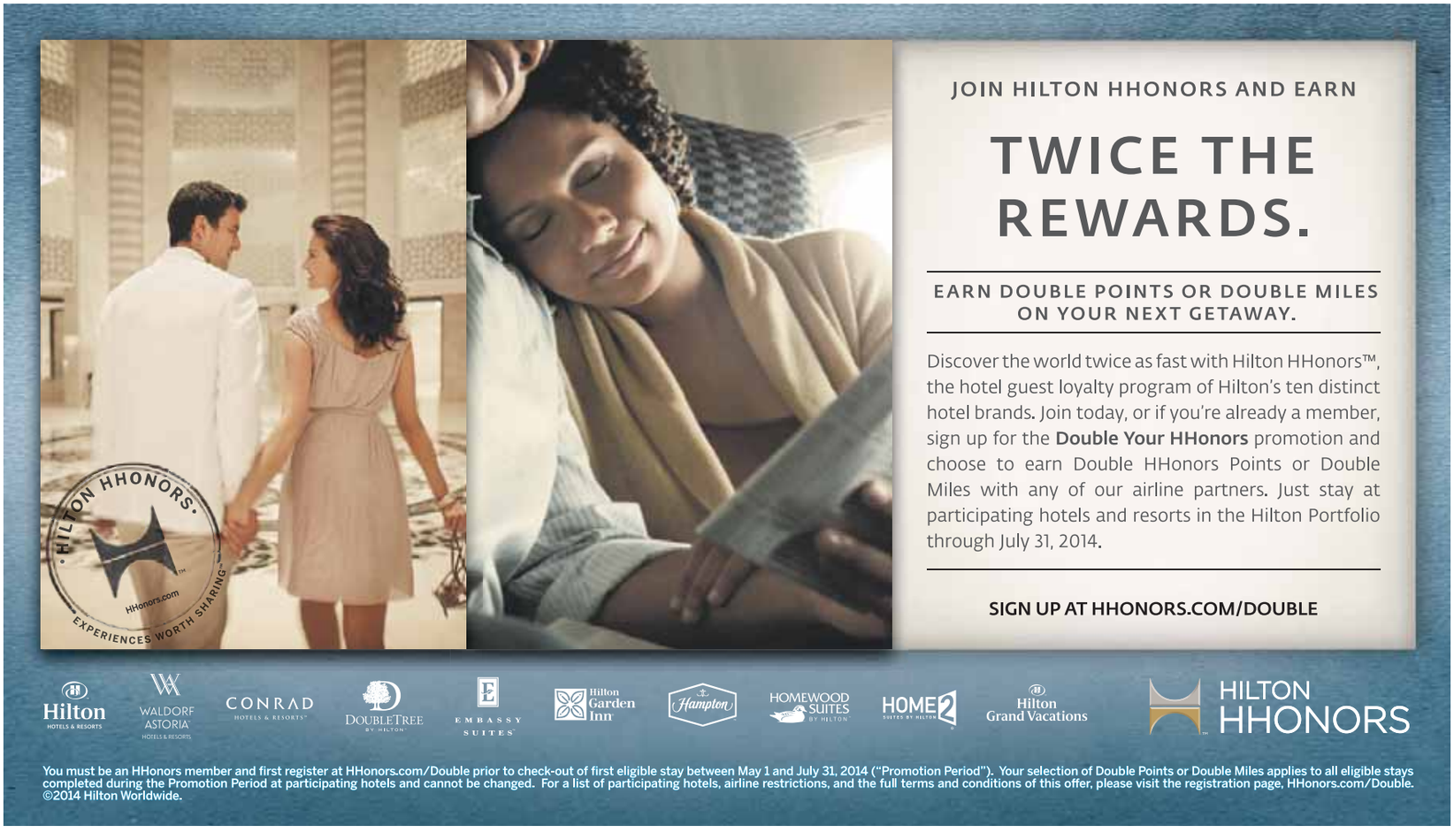
Located on a 4,000-acre expanse of jungle, nearly half of the resort is a government protected reserve.

The huge property plays home to just 15 bungalows, which offer guests stunning views over a private mile long beach.

Enjoy "the luxury of lazy" by working on your tan at the pool, swaying in a hammock on the beach, or sipping a tart margarita (or two).

Those looking for an adventure are spoiled for choice as friendly tour guides offer a menu of daily excursions such as horseback riding along the beach at sunset and bird watching via kayak through a mangrove forest.

Be sure not to miss Breakfast on the Farm, where guests milk cows for coffee, fetch eggs to fry and slap together tortillas to create their very own authentic Nicaraguan brunch.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Grilling made fancy: Pesto Salmon

Quick dinner. This dish is easy enough for a weeknight meal and sophisticated enough for a entertaining guests

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Looking for a fast dinner for the week that can double for a fun weekend get together?

This is the one.

Salmon is so fast and easy to grill up and enjoy during the week, but also a great meal to share with friends.

This simple but elegant supper also uses fresh in-season asparagus to showcase great colour, texture and crispness right off the grill.

With a hint of lemon, it's the perfect accent to the salmon. Steam up your favourite fragrant rice to round out your plate or better yet, change it up and serve it all over a bed of greens.

Get your grill ready and try out this inspiring recipe to get you in the mood for summer.

Ingredients

Pesto
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) light mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) chopped fresh Italian parsley
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) store-bought basil or sundried tomato pesto or Dijon mustard
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper and salt
- 4 boneless salmon fillets, skin on (about 600 g total weight)

Grilled Asparagus
- 1 lb (454 g) asparagus spears
- 1 tsp (5 l)) extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) black pepper
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) fresh lemon juice
- Lemon wedges

FLASH FOOD
From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

1. In small bowl, whisk together mayonnaise, parsley, pesto, pepper and salt. Spread the pesto evenly over top of salmon; set aside.

2. Grilled Asparagus: Snap tough ends of asparagus off and discard. Toss spears with oil and pepper.

3. Place fillets and asparagus on greased grill over medium-high heat. Close lid; cook 10 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork and asparagus is tender crisp. Drizzle asparagus with lemon juice.

This recipe makes six servings. EMILY RICHARDS

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Thursday, May 8

The CORE Shopping Centre
324 8 Ave SW
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Nose Hill Library
1530 Northmount Dr NW
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Friday, May 9

South Fish Creek Complex
#100, 333 Shawville Blvd SE
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 10

Genesis Centre
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RIANA TOPAN
TalentEgg.ca

A fair salary should reflect your value at your workplace. ISTOCK

Settling into your first "real" job can take some time —there's a steep learning curve while you adjust to the ways of the working world.

As an entry-level worker, one of the more difficult lessons that you'll need to learn is about how to manage your salary expectations.

Your worth as an employee is based on many factors: your level of responsibility, work experience, level of education, skill set and accomplishments, any awards or extra credentials you've earned and the contributions you make to the overall success of the company.

Your salary will also usually be determined, at least in part, by the industry you work in, your location and your employment benefits (if any).

So how are you to know what you should be earning?

Do your homework

Research similar positions, within similar industries and in similar geographic areas, to determine the average pay for the kind of work you do.

Pay close attention to job descriptions — the salaries you research should be for positions with duties and a level of responsibility akin to yours — and keep track of the market data you collect to use later in your negotiations. Certain websites, like PayScale.com, are a good starting point because they provide average salaries for a range of positions and industries.

Evaluate your performance

What have you brought to your position and to the organization you work for?

What have you done well? What have you learned since taking on your position? How do you go above and beyond what's expected of you?

Knowing how to answer these questions is key to being able to demonstrate that you deserve a raise. Keep an ongoing record of your accomplishments and any positive feedback you receive regarding the work you do to help you prove your value to your employer.

Ask for a (timely) meeting

If possible, find out when your employer does salary reviews or makes budget decisions and ask for a meeting to discuss your professional goals a few months prior. If this isn't possible, you can still increase your chances of success by scheduling the meeting after you've done something well or during a relatively low-stress period.

If things are particularly busy, focus on doing excellent, dependable work instead of agitating for a raise — this contribution will be valuable later.

State your case

You're finally ready to have "the talk." Tell your employer that you asked for this meeting to discuss your compensation because you believe you deserve a raise.

Share the research you've done about typical salary ranges for comparable positions and talk about your strong performance so far and how you bring value to your position.

Be respectful but confident. Emphasize that you look forward to continuing to grow with the organization.

Explain why you have earned a raise, not why you need one.

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Arm yourself with info

Anticipate potential counter-arguments

- Think about the possible reasons you may be declined a raise. For example, your boss might say that they don't have the money in the budget right now, to which you could respond by offering a creative (read: non-monetary) solution, such as extra paid vacation days, professional development funding, or other benefits.
- Be sure to present these alternatives in a collaborative way.

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*Subject to final approval by the Government of Alberta.

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The Canadiens' P.K. Subban celebrates with teammate Dale Weise after scoring on the Bruins Tuesday in Montreal. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

P.K. keeps peaking as Habs best Bruins

NHL playoffs. Defenceman, goalie help Montreal grab series lead over Boston

Game 3

Canadiens	Bruins
4	2

P.K. Subban is having a series to remember for the Montreal Canadiens

Subban, Dale Weise and Lars Eller each had a goal and an assist, and Carey Price made 26 saves as the Canadiens downed the Boston Bruins 4-2 on Tuesday night to take the lead in their Eastern Conference semifinal playoff series.

Montreal leads the best-of-seven series 2-1 with Game 4 slated for Thursday night at the Bell Centre.

Subban, the 2013 Norris trophy winner as the NHL's top defenceman, has two points in each of the three games of the series and 11 points in seven playoff games so far.

"We're playing well as a team," said Subban. "I'm just the beneficiary of the guys playing well around me, supporting me.

"It starts in goal. Well, it actually starts with our coaching staff and making sure everybody is feeling confident. We're doing it together. It starts with Pricey. From our defence to our forwards. We're sticking together. When we had adversity, we're sticking together doing the right things.

"It's fun to play on teams where you know guys are going to support you."

Tomas Plekanec also scored for Montreal, which was outplayed for long stretches but made the most of quick-strike attacks.

Patrice Bergeron and Andrej Meszaros scored for the Bruins, who outshot Montreal 28-26.

For the third straight game in the series, the Canadiens held a 3-1 lead in the third period but, for the first time, didn't let it completely slip away.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL playoffs

Wild surge in 3rd makes it a series

Erik Haula and Mikael Granlund scored goals less than 3 minutes apart early in the third period, and the Minnesota Wild recovered from a sluggish start for a 4-0 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks on Tuesday in Game 3 of the Western Conference semifinal series.

Ilya Bryzgalov made 19 saves for his first shutout in the playoffs in eight years, and the Blackhawks had their lead whittled to 2-1 with their first loss in 2 1/2 weeks.

Zach Parise put the exclamation point on the win with a power-play goal.

Game 4 is Friday in Minnesota.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

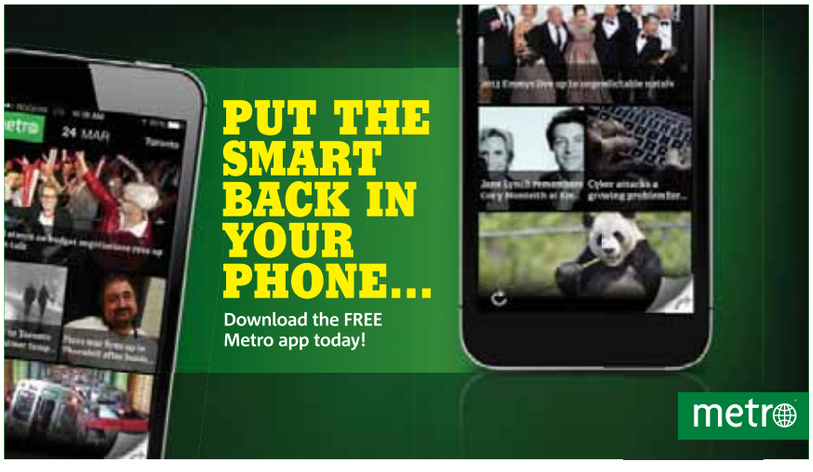
NHL

Cup winner Laviolette to be Preds' 2nd coach

The Nashville Predators wanted experience and a proven winner as their new head coach, and general manager David Poile believes that's what they got in hiring Peter Laviolette — just the second coach in the franchise's history.

Laviolette has won nine of the 14 post-season series he has coached with the Islanders, Carolina Hurricanes and Philadelphia Flyers. He also won the Stanley Cup in 2006 with Carolina and coached the Flyers to the Stanley Cup finals in 2010.

The Predators announced Tuesday they signed him to a multi-year contract. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Ever notice tennis players make funny faces as they hit the ball? Scan the image with the Metro News app to see a collection from Tuesday's action at the Madrid Open.

Champs show no signs of weakness after eight days off

NBA playoffs. After losing to Nets all season, Heat prove they're a different beast in post-season

Turns out the Miami Heat can beat the Brooklyn Nets.

And rest hardly led to rust for the two-time defending NBA champions.

LeBron James scored 22 points, Ray Allen added 19 and the Heat stayed perfect in this post-season by beating the Nets 107-86 on Tuesday night in Game 1 of an Eastern Conference semifinal series. It was the first win for Miami in five meetings with Brooklyn this season.

"It's one," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "But I liked the energy, the activity."

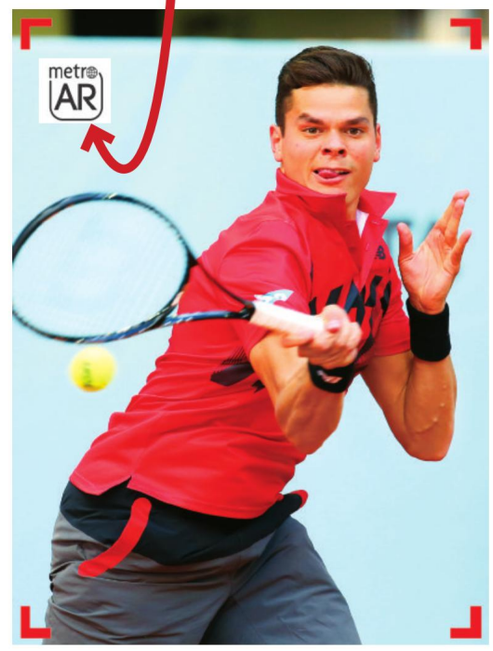
LeBron James shot 10-for-15 from the floor for 22 points in Miami's Game 1 win over Brooklyn on Tuesday night. GETTY IMAGES

Chris Bosh scored 15 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, Dwyane Wade finished with 14 points and Mario Chalmers had 12 for Miami, which recorded at least one regular-season win against every team except Brooklyn, losing four times by a total of 12 points.

This one was a different story. A 24-9 run in the third quarter blew things open for the Heat, who hadn't played in eight days after sweeping Charlotte in the opening round.

"It was great that we were able to come out the way we did after being off eight days," James said. "We got a lot of work in. We had eight days off of not playing a basketball game but Spo got us in the gym. (We) got each other in the gym. We made each other accountable throughout the layoff and it proved tonight."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Raonic revved up in Madrid

Milos Raonic plays a forehand against France's Jeremy Chardy in their second-round match of the Madrid Open on Tuesday. Raonic won his opening match 6-3, 6-3 in just over an hour. Raonic, from Thornhill, Ont., fired 11 aces and did not commit a double-fault.

CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES

CFL

Lions change stance, give Mitchell a second chance

Khalif Mitchell didn't leave a lot of friends behind when the B.C. Lions traded him to the Toronto Argonauts prior to last season.

The controversial defensive lineman had been a dominant force in helping the Lions to a 2011 Grey Cup victory, but the following campaign was marked by a number of troubling incidents on and off the field that resulted in both fines and suspensions.

"Good riddance!!!!" tweeted running back Andrew Harris following the April 2013 deal with the Argonauts was announced.

But after Mitchell was released this past off-season by Toronto to pursue NFL opportunities that never materialized, the Lions jumped at the chance to bring the hulking 29-year-old with a unique skill set back into the fold by signing him to a contract on Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app. By the numbers! Learn more about the 2015 Subaru.

2015 Subaru WRX STI

- **Type.** Four-door, all-wheel drive compact sedan
- **Engines (hp).** 2.5-litre DOHC horizontally opposed four-cylinder, turbocharged (305)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual
- **Base price (incl. destination).** $40,000

Market position

The STI exists in an ultra-exclusive rally-race niche bracket where the only direct competitor is the Mitsubishi Evolution. And that model's upcoming retirement leaves only hot hatchbacks to compete against.

Points

- Redesign results in the most attractive STI yet
- No change in base engine, but with 305 horses there's no urgent need for any improvement
- Six-speed manual is the only transmission. Perhaps it's time for an automated manual option
- No more Mitsubishi Evo after 2014 is sad news for fans of this genre, but give the STI free reign

The STI's rear wing is an iconic badge of honour for any Subie fan.

Safety

Front airbags; side-impact airbags; side-curtain air-bags; driver's knee airbag, anti-lock brakes; traction control; stability control.

A ride on Subaru's wilder side

Review. With beefed-up suspension components, this rally-racer-inspired model means business

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

The WRX STI's continued existence confirms that Subaru's somewhat conservative image is at least partly a myth.

The rally-racer-inspired model is an integral member of the automaker's performance lineup that includes the lower-echelon WRX and the BRZ sport coupe.

The redesigned sedan is more stylish, punctuated by the new grille, a hood with functional scoop, and flared fenders that integrate more smoothly with the rest of the body. The WRX STI and its tamer WRX sibling will no longer also be offered as hatchbacks.

Of course the STI still has an available rear wing that doesn't serve any real purpose in everyday driving, but it's an iconic badge of honour for any Subie enthusiast and provides some necessary downforce for owners who occasionally venture forth on the racetrack.

The new model is only slightly longer and wider than the previous version and adds three centimetres between the front and rear wheels and five more centimetres of rear-seat legroom. The car weighs about five kilograms less than before.

Subaru has focused on handling and agility improvements for the STI with a stiffer chassis and faster-acting power steering. As well, the suspension components and the Brembo-brand brakes have been beefed up.

Left untouched is the STI's turbocharged 2.5-litre four-cylinder engine that makes 305 horsepower and 290 pound-feet of torque. Fuel consumption, at 12.3 l/100 km in the city and 8.6 on the highway, is slightly better than before.

Compare

1 Mitsubishi Evolution
Base price: $43,600
Fast, but dated Lancer-based rally machine will sadly be missed.

2 Nissan Juke Nismo RS
Base price: $30,000
Fun and funky small hatch is plenty peppy with 215 horses to play with.

3 Mini Paceman JCW
Base price: $41,200
Sporty all-wheel drive mode looks good and puts out 207 horsepower.

5 DRIVE

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RISE OF THE ROBOTS

In 1962, General Motors put the first robots online to perform spot welding. Today the presence of robots on factory floors has grown to the point of almost full 'lights out' automation in some factories

TODD D. BURLAGE
www.wheelbasemedia.com

Neil Dueweke still remembers the day these cold and emotionless invaders quietly overran factory floors and callously changed the course of automotive history.

These tireless workers never left their post, never called in sick, never took vacation and never once gossiped or griped about long hours or no lunch break.

With more than 25 years in the robotics business, Dueweke has been on the front lines while this technological influx has steadily made car building as safe, efficient and dependable as it ever has been.

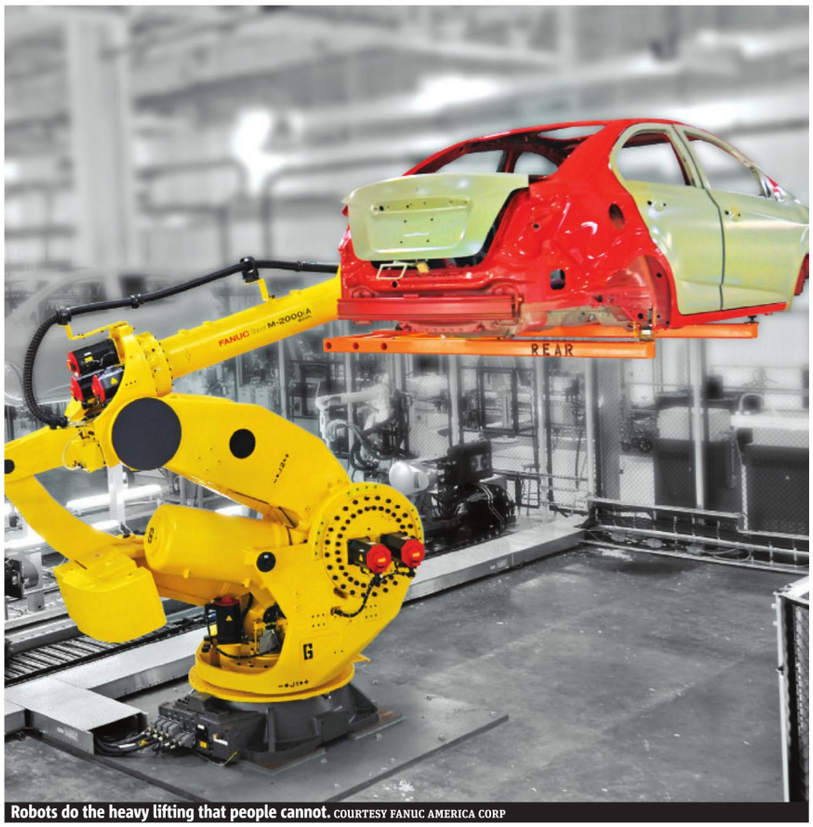
"Robotics has changed dramatically since I've been in it," said Dueweke, body structure general manager of FANUC America Corp., a leading international industrial robotics supplier. "And the business continues to change seemingly every day."

From the simplistic single-arm robots of the 1980s used for menial tasks such as spot welding, to today's modern machines that can carry entire truck bodies and handle almost any manufacturing chore, robotics are becoming more the rule than the exception in vehicle construction.

Robotics in automotive construction continues to evolve, but the science is nothing new. Since 1962 when General Motors put the first robots online to perform spot welding and die-casting, the presence of robotics on factory floors has grown to the point of almost full "lights out" automation in some factories, where cars can be built in the dark.

And while robotic-reliant plants obviously don't help the human unemployment rate, these precise machines dramatically reduce on-the-job injuries and, Dueweke believes, improve overall morale within the workplace.

And as far as job loss? "The argument about the robots taking jobs away from people is rather in the past," said Dueweke, stressing that while the assembly line workforce may be shrinking some, maintenance and other specialized job opportunities are growing.



Robots do the heavy lifting that people cannot. COURTESY FANUC AMERICA CORP

Robots do fast, precise work. COURTESY FANUC AMERICA CORP

In addition to improved worker safety and unmatched reliability, the shrinking prices and logistical advantages of a robotic-based facility are driving auto builders more and more to automated-plant construction. Popularity and mass production of robotics have helped drive down the price of these machines by about two-thirds since the boom of the automation industry 20 or 25 years ago.

Dueweke said that anywhere from 350 to 700 robots are installed during the typical construction of a "green field" plant. A standard low-end robot used for simple assembly tasks such as spot welding or tire installation costs about $20,000 US, while the most sophisticated painting or lift-and-place machines cost $100,000 US or more.

"Price is one of the key enablers," Dueweke said. "It's a lower cost right now to put up a robotized plant versus what was done 30 or 40 years ago. "

Japan easily carries the highest international rate of robotic equipment in the auto industry with nearly 2,000 robots for every 10,000 human employees. The U.S. ranks fourth with about 1,200 robots for every 10,000 employees. And Litzenberger expects the ratio to continually close.

Quoted

"The argument about the robots taking jobs away from people is in the past."

Neil Dueweke, body structure general manager of FANUC America Corp.

"The industry would not have been able to meet the increasing demand of cars without robots," she said. "Especially with more varieties of models and improved quality."

Automotive robotics are found in three areas: the body shop where the sheet metal is attached and the frame is assembled; the paint shop where the vehicles are sealed and painted; and in general assembly when the components are attached and construction is completed.

Robots in the body and paint shops have become relatively commonplace because of the precision and consistency they provide, leaving general assembly as the area for the greatest potential autonomy growth.

"I would say in another 15 years you're going to see some significant progress in general assembly in terms of automating and changing the way vehicles are final-assembled," Dueweke said. "General assembly is the Holy Grail; that's part of the next frontier for robotics in automotive."

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Pennzoil shakes up the engine oil industry

Platinum. Formulated from natural gas, new high-end oil is cited as the best out there for keeping engine innards clean

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Pennzoil is now formulating engine oil from natural gas. In a statement, Pennzoil referred to its new Platinum line as, "the first major development in motor oil in more than 40 years."

Seems a bit boastful, don't you think?

But there is definitely a paradigm-shifting element to making engine oil from natural gas.

When you make engine oil from crude, you start with a fairly dirty substance and clean it up as much as possible. It's called "crude" for a reason. It's filthier than reality TV, messier than a home zoo, and has to be extensively "refined" before it's invited anywhere.

With Pennzoil Platinum it's the other way around. It starts with an incredibly clean base stock. The base stock is gathered from natural gas through a "gas-to-liquid" process not dissimilar to collecting a very pure form of water from vapour or steam.

That base stock is colourless, even "crystal clear" according to Pennzoil. Then the additives go in, and then it takes on that golden hue, common to all clean engine oil, and near and dear to the heart of everyone who takes satisfaction in changing their engine oil in the driveway.

Interestingly, Pennzoil and its parent company Shell are not getting this natural-gas-sourced product from natural-gas-rich North America.

It comes from Pearl GTL (Gas to Liquids), the world's largest gas-to-liquid plant, which is located in Ras Laffan, Qatar. A partnership between Shell and Qatar Petroleum, the plant can produce 30,000 barrels of base oil per day.

Pennzoil calls its Platinum line "the first major development in motor oil in more than 40 years." ISTOCK

From there the base oils enter Shell's global lubricants blending plant network to produce the finished products.

Serving North American customers in that regard is Shell's massive lubricant blending and storage facility in Houston, Texas.

The two Pennzoil oils formulated with the PurePlus base stocks, Platinum and Ultra Platinum, are definitely high-end products; in fact, they are at the top end of Pennzoil's food chain.

Pennzoil is obviously touting the oil's cleanliness; With so few impurities, it is cited as the best oil out there to keep your pistons and other engines innards as clean as possible.

Maybe not clean enough to eat on, but clean for an engine. As a high-end synthetic it will undoubtedly also be good at other things, like fuel efficiency, long drain intervals, wear protection, and extreme temperature performance.

Shell said it has been contemplating and working on natural gas to liquid technologies since the 1970s.

So far Shell is the only known manufacturer to have produced base oil from natural gas on a commercial scale. Will others follow?

Quoted

"The base stock is gathered from natural gas; through a 'gas-to-liquid' process not dissimilar to collecting a very pure form of water from vapour or steam."

Mike Goetz, columnist

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B) No fees

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Smartphone integration tops drivers' wish lists

In-cabin smartphone, infotainment and apps access are top of drivers' wish lists when it comes to the features they want in their next car.

That is according to the 15,171 vehicle owners who took part in the J.D. Power 2014 U.S. Automotive Emerging Technologies Study.

Published this week, the survey sets out to find the existing and upcoming technologies that most excite the nation's drivers and which ones they'd be most willing to pay extra to have.

Before cost enters the equation, the most popular features are all about smartphone connectivity — 83 per cent want wireless connectivity systems for pairing phones and tablets with the car, while 78 per cent are most excited and interested in a device/application link, a feature that allows drivers to control a handset and access its apps via a vehicle's standard equipment, such as a dashboard-mounted touchscreen display.

Yet, when it comes to cost, 60 per cent of respondents feel being able to wirelessly connect a phone to a car should be a standard feature. But when it comes to app integration, buyers are prepared to go the extra mile — 79 per cent said they'd be willing to pay a $250 premium for the feature, dropping to 55 per cent if the price were $300 or more.

The most popular features drivers want in their next car are all about smartphone connectivity. AFP

A number of car companies, most notably Ford, have developed their own systems for offering this functionality, but in recent months the two big smartphone operating systems — Apple's iOS and Google's Android — have also been getting in on the act. Apple recently unveiled CarPlay, a system that mirrors an iPhone's screen and a number of its core apps to the dashboard screen in a way that can be safely accessed by touch or via voice command.

Right at the other end of the scale, the technology that generates the least interest and excitement is gesture control. Drivers were suspicious of the concept of being able to wave or move a hand in order to access functions like sat-nav or the stereo. AFP

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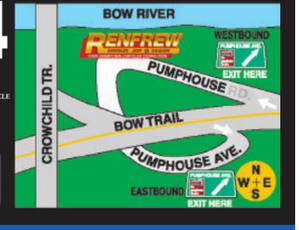

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Ford F-150 serves up futuristic twist on headlights

Light-emitting diodes.
New LED lights not only energy-efficient but also long-lasting

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

Back when cars were first developed, they used gas lanterns, or sometimes even candles, to light their way along dark roads. Today's vehicles need bright headlights so drivers can see and be seen, but these lamps also need to be long-lasting and energy-efficient.

When Ford launches its all-new F-150 later this year, it will be the first production pickup truck to use LED headlights, one of the newest developments in headlight technology. The name is short for light-emitting diodes.

"It is creating light through electronic means," says Mahendra Dassanayake, senior technical leader for opto-electronics at Ford. "You can customize it to help with vision."

Incandescent and halogen headlights contain a filament that gets hot enough to emit light. High-intensity discharge (HID) headlights, also called xenon lights, use an electrical arc between two tungsten electrodes to heat up vapour inside the lamp, creating light.

LED lights use semiconductor chips to produce light. On Ford's lamps, the chips emit blue light, which is filtered through a phosphor material to make it appear white. A unique lens, cut with 16 optical surfaces and 80 facets, magnifies the light and spreads it evenly, so only one LED is required for each lamp.

The semiconductor chips heat up to about 50 degrees Celsius, so they're used with an integrated heat sink, a channelled holder that dissipates heat. The lens itself doesn't heat up, unlike halogen or HID headlights, which get hot. In a halogen lamp, the bulb itself gets as hot as 600 degrees Celsius, Dassanayake says.

Because the lamps stay cool, they won't melt snow that accumulates when driving in winter. Ford is working on special surface coatings that should help to reduce any buildup.

It's also important for headlamps to use as little power as possible, since the electricity is ultimately generated by the engine, and any power draw decreases fuel economy. The LED lamps are more than 50 to 60 per cent more energy-efficient than halogen lamps, and about 30 per cent more than HID headlamps. "It will improve as time goes on," Dassanayake says. "This is technology at its basic inception."

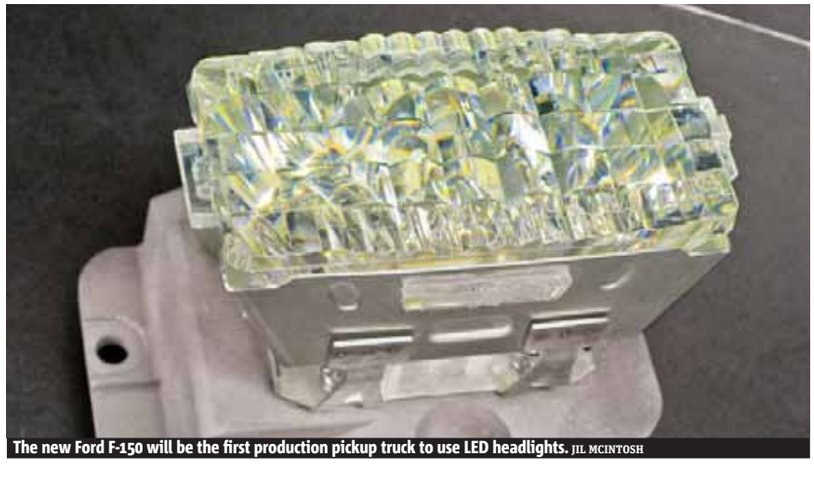
The new lamps are also more robust than other types, which is especially important in a pickup truck. Excessive vibration from off-road bumps or rough roads can shorten the lifespan of the filament in an incandescent or halogen bulb, but isn't an issue in an LED lamp, which doesn't use a filament. "I think LED is going to be the future of lighting," Dassanayake says.

All about LEDs

- LED headlamps are relatively expensive, but they're expected to last more than five times longer than halogen headlamps.
- LED lights are already used extensively in vehicles, including in taillights and interior lighting.
- The F-150's headlamps also include a thin LED tube that outlines the lamp for a unique signature appearance.

Quoted

"I think LED is going to be the future of lighting."
Mahendra Dassanayake, senior technical leader for opto-electrics at Ford



The new Ford F-150 will be the first production pickup truck to use LED headlights. JIL MCINTOSH

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Keep your eyes and ears open today because if you don't you may miss out on an opportunity to have fun. With Mercury moving strongly in your favour, your mind will be sharp and strong, giving you a major advantage over your rivals.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You must be positive today. Both in your personal life and at work there is a lot at stake and you need to know what you want — and have the courage to reach out and take it.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Start believing that you have what it takes to make a difference. Now that Mercury, your ruler, is moving into your sign, the doubts of the past few weeks will be swept away.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
The things you fear the most are the things from which you have least to fear. Seep that into your subconscious. The planets indicate nothing out there in the world can hurt you.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
The message of the stars is you must allow friends and family members to make more decisions for themselves. Over the past few weeks you have insisted on taking the lead. It's time to give others a chance.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You won't lack for opportunities today but don't just throw yourself at the first one that comes along. Identify what it is you most want to accomplish and wait for the right offer.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may have been too fixed in your opinions of late but with mind planet Mercury moving in your favour, you will get the chance to review your beliefs and adjust them to fit reality.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Over the next two or three days you will find it easier to come to grips with a financial matter that has been keeping you awake at night. Once you find the real problem, you will also find the courage to deal with it.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Others don't have to lose out just so that you can win. Your task today is to find creative ways in which to further your own ambitions while helping others get what they need.

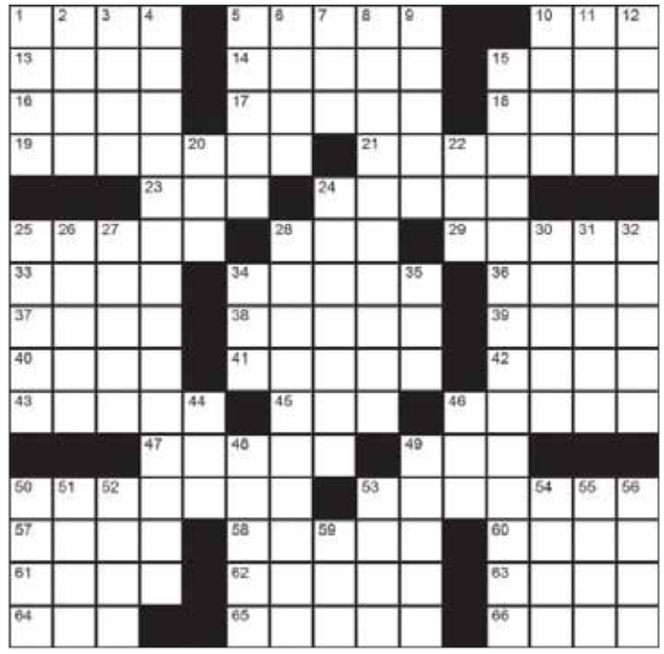
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You have changed so often in recent weeks that you may no longer be sure which way is up, but that's OK. On the work front at least you will know without a doubt what needs to be done next. So do it.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Now that Mercury, planet of the mind, is moving into your fellow Air sign of Gemini the mental turmoil of the past few weeks will fade away. You can make things easier for yourself by not worrying so much.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You may have to give up something that means a lot to you but you won't mind too much. You will be happier still if people just leave you alone for a while. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

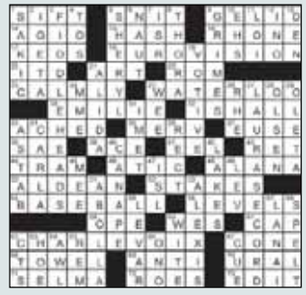
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. ___ (Answer to "Where's Vancouver?")
5. Popular cartoon-like icon in digital communication
10. Dijon's country, to the IOC
13. "That hurts!"
14. Fruit type
15. Vancouver band, __ The Whale
16. Insect nests
17. Gradual loudness increase in music, for short
18. Purplish
19. Toronto: Yonge Street splits this Avenue into East and West
21. "The Newlywed Game" host Bob
23. "Yuck!"
24. Tune line
25. "__ __ Replay" by Rihanna
28. "Hee __"
29. "Disaster __" on HGTV Canada
33. Over-fed = ___ lot
34. Actress Debi
36. Clark Gable film setting
37. Seeded
38. Hawaiian Crow
39. 'Gen' finisher (Basic)
40. Baby branch
41. 'The King', in Spanish: 2 wds.
42. Lounge around
43. Building extension
45. 'Vigor' suffix
46. Quebec, 'La __ Province'
47. Norwegian kings
49. Zoologist's foot
50. "When I'm with You" Canadian band
53. Receive warmly
57. Ping-__
58. Western flick
60. Ancient author
61. House's gutter locale
62. Arctic boat
63. Peel
64. Sarcastic
65. Onion kins
66. Dash

Down
1. Particles
2. Night: French
3. Alphabet sequence
4. Coast Salish actor (b.1899 - d.1981) from North Vancouver who co-starred with Clint Eastwood in #8-Down: 3 wds.
5. Host an event
6. Seas: French
7. Flamenco exclamation!
8. "The Outlaw __ __" (1976)
9. Obtain
10. Human/goat forest deity
11. Canadian star Mr. Moranis
12. Tangy quaffs
15. NASA's Kepler: 2 wds.
20. Whopper
22. Tender
24. Statue of Liberty poet, Emma __ (b.1849 - d.1887)
25. Macaroni
26. "Liquid Dreams" TV-created band
27. ___ stock (Recently-arrived goods)
28. Toronto attraction, Hockey __ __ __
30. Festive song
31. Canadian singer/pianist Diana
32. Room: French
34. Ms. West
35. Jamie Foxx movie
44. Gladiator's 41
46. "The Fresh Prince of __-Air"
48. Run __ of (Conflict)
49. Benefits
50. Disgorge
51. Rime
52. Greenly admire
53. Tired
54. Shape sort
55. Ms. Sorvino
56. Paradise
59. Affiliation

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	1	6	3			8		
	9			4		2		
	4		7		6			
			4				7	
3			5		7			6
	5				8			
			2		9		8	
		5		3			9	
		4			5	7	1	

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	4	1	3	9	7	6	8	5
6	8	7	1	4	5	9	2	3
3	9	5	8	6	2	4	1	7
1	2	6	9	5	3	7	4	8
4	3	9	7	2	8	1	5	6
5	7	8	6	1	4	2	3	9
7	1	2	5	3	6	8	9	4
9	6	3	4	8	1	5	7	2
8	5	4	2	7	9	3	6	1

Weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
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